



## **CEPPS/IFES Quarterly Report: April 1 – June 30, 2005**

### **Liberia Support for the Conduct of the Electoral Process**

**USAID Associate Agreement No. 669-A-00-05-00013-00 under  
Leader Agreement DGC A-00-01-00004-0  
Project Period: November 1, 2004 – April 30, 2006  
Total Budget: \$4,800,000 Expenses Recorded to Date: \$2,471,913**

#### **Results Summary**

- IFES provided support this quarter to the voter registration process in Liberia through the provision of technical expertise, as well as critical materials technology. Technical expertise was provided to the process of drafting guidelines and procedures, training of key stakeholders in interpreting regulations and applying international best practices in the Liberian context, and troubleshooting technology failures during the registration exercise. Materials and technology, such as high-volume optical scanners, Polaroid cameras and film, print and broadcast voter education messages, and pedagogical tools for voter education, were provided to the National Elections Commission (NEC) and other key elections partners. These initiatives resulted in:
  - A regulatory framework reflecting international standards;
  - Technologically sound management of the registration process, further contributing to public confidence in electoral institutions;
  - More competent, professional election administration personnel and CSO voter education and advocacy initiatives; and
  - Greater levels of public information available on the electoral process.
- IFES provided infrastructure development services to the NEC this quarter through subgrants, contracts, and procurement actions. These services resulted in: the construction or rehabilitation of 10 offices for the NEC in the counties; placement of shipping containers for storage of registration and election materials at county office sites; outfitting of county offices with basic furniture, supplies, equipment, and communications; and power supply in the counties. The outfitted offices have allowed the NEC to establish a formal presence in the counties and thereby better serve the needs of Liberian voters outside of the capital city.
- IFES worked with key election stakeholders this quarter to formulate a system of political finance regulation, monitoring, and enforcement. IFES support has allowed the NEC to fulfill its legally mandated role as political finance regulator by developing draft guidelines and reporting forms in consultation with CSOs and political parties. IFES seminars have built consensus around an appropriate regulatory structure for political finance in Liberia and laid the groundwork for implementation of that structure over the coming months. A robust political finance system, with appropriate levels of regulation, monitoring and buy-in from

key stakeholders, greatly enhances the transparency of the political and electoral process.

- IFES consulted the NEC, along with other international advisors, on the methodology for delimitation of electoral boundaries this quarter. The collective advice of international advisors and commitment of the NEC to a transparent process led to comprehensive technical guidelines on the delimitation system, as well as a memorandum of understanding with political parties solidifying consensus on the appropriateness of that system.
- Lastly, IFES provided support to Liberian CSOs this quarter in building their capacity to: monitor electoral violence; enfranchise citizens with disabilities; and educate voters. Three roundtables were conducted to solicit input from CSO partners on program design, ensuring buy-in from local partners.

## **Background**

With the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in Accra in August 2003, Liberians committed themselves to political, versus military, competition for the control of Liberia's reconstruction, and to the holding of national elections in October 2005. The prospect of democratic elections prompted significant support from the international community, including the U.S. government, which solicited support from IFES in planning for the 2005 elections cycle through its standing grant from USAID and a short-term CEPPS agreement. In September of 2004, IFES and its CEPPS partners, IRI and NDI, submitted a proposal in response to a USAID program description designed to support a credible and competitive electoral process.

The design of the IFES project was informed by extensive consultations with other international agencies providing electoral support, particularly the UN and the European Commission, and with other partners, including the National Elections Commission (NEC) in Liberia. With funding through the short-term CEPPS agreement received in March 2004, IFES also conducted an electoral assessment planning mission to Liberia to develop a strategy for international support, an operational planning concept, and a cost projection for the Liberian electoral process. Consequently, IFES identified areas of immediate need and, in June, received USAID funding through its grant to provide assistance to:

- Develop and strengthen the legal framework for the electoral process; and
- Enhance the capacity of the NEC to organize elections.

Work under this CEPPS agreement builds on the activities conducted under the grant and the findings of the April 2004 assessment mission.

IFES' program through this quarter has focused on the professional and infra-structure development of the National Elections Commission (NEC); assisting the NEC's electoral operations; providing assistance to NEC's budget; improving electoral access for citizens with disabilities; promoting the electoral enfranchisement of returning refugees and internally displaced persons; facilitating the effective monitoring of political party/candidate expenditures; increasing NEC's capacity to prevent and resolve disputes; and enhancing the effectiveness of the Supreme Court to adjudicate electoral disputes.

During this and the previous reporting period, activities related to attaining these objectives centered primarily on guiding the NEC and other key partners in preparing for and carrying out the voter registration process. Over 1.3 million Liberians registered for October's elections, exceeding most expectations for the registration process. The process was also given a clean bill of health by international observers, including the IRI-led observation team.

In the post-registration period, the key issues to which IFES assistance will be redirected include:

- the delimitation of electoral boundaries;
- monitoring and mitigation of electoral violence;
- dissemination of voter information;
- procurement of key election day materials;
- enfranchisement of citizens with disabilities;
- the drafting of regulations on political finance, complaints procedures, and election day procedures; and
- training programs to build the capacity of election stakeholders to implement those regulations.

## **Details of the Program**

IFES established its on-site presence in Liberia under previous agreements in mid-July. IFES' team in Monrovia this quarter consisted of IFES Country Director Chedomir Flego, an experienced election administrator and electoral assistance expert, Project Manager Brett Massey, responsible for overseeing general operations and procurement for IFES in Liberia, Director of Programs Carmina Sanchis-Ruescas, responsible for voter education and outreach, and Senior Advisor for Africa and Governance Susan Palmer. IFES-Liberia is also supported by several local staff members.

In its provision of technical advice and support to the National Elections Commission, IFES collaborates closely with the UNMIL Electoral Unit, which is coordinating donor assistance to the NEC, and the European Commission. To promote collaboration, maximize impact and avoid duplication of effort, IFES meets frequently with its international partners to plan initiatives and review the various activities being undertaken. IFES also meets at least twice a month, if not more, with its CEPPS partners, IRI and NDI, to coordinate assistance programs, and once a month with all USAID partners. IFES program activities this month included:

## **Activities**

### **1. Voter Registration**

The voter registration process ran its course this quarter, with Liberians visiting 1511 voter registration centers throughout the country. The process was an extremely challenging logistical exercise, as well as an exercise whose success was heavily dependent on adequate information being disseminated to would-be registrants. During

the quarter, IFES continued to provide the procurement and technical assistance to the NEC and other key stakeholders that was critical to a successful outcome. IFES assistance included:

- Drafting support for critical procedures and regulations;
- Procurement of materials;
- Development of pedagogical tools for voter education;
- Training in international best practices; and
- Technical assistance to voter registration operations.

#### *Drafting of Procedures and Regulations*

Procedures for voter registration were extremely late in being adopted. IFES advisers worked with partners at the NEC and UNMIL to push for quick passage at the beginning of April. The final Voter Registration Regulations (see Attachment 1) were adopted on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April, just 13 days before the commencement of registration. Late adoption of these regulations necessitated last-minute changes to voter education materials and training related to the voter registration process and generally put the process at risk for delay. IFES provided expert assistance to drafters at the NEC and UNMIL in developing procedures for exhibition, transfer registration, and appeals.

Guidelines for observers were also adopted in April with IFES technical support (see Attachment 2).

#### *Procurement of Materials*

The majority of materials for the voter registration process were procured, either through purchase orders or lease/loan arrangements, in the previous quarter. These included: cameras from Ghana and Sierra Leone, scanners leased from Ghana and purchased from DRS, and film and photo fix on order from South Africa. Further scanners were leased from DRS by IFES in April to ensure maximum efficiency of the scanning of voter registration forms at the NEC/UNMIL data center in Monrovia.

Critical procurements managed by UNMIL included voter registration kits and OMR (optical mark recognition) registration forms. The kits were packed and shipped out to the counties by UNMIL in 20 foot shipping containers purchased by IFES. Due to a shortage of legally acquired shipping containers in Monrovia, IFES sourced a majority of the shipping containers in neighboring Sierra Leone. All materials were procured in time for shipment to the counties.

#### *Development and Dissemination of Pedagogical Tools for Voter Education*

In cooperation with UNMIL and the NEC through the NEC's voter and civic education subcommittee, IFES supported the development a handbook for voter education (see Attachment 3) focusing on the voter registration process. A series of leaflets and flyers (see Attachment 4) were also developed. These tools were made available to NEC staff in the counties, as well as civil society organizations (CSOs) managing voter information drives.

IFES also funded the development and deployment of radio voter education spots and street theater performances by the Crusaders for Peace, a Monrovia-based CSO. The Crusaders for Peace focused their interactive programs on IDP populations living in camps in Margibi and Montserrado Counties. Additional materials produced by the Crusaders for Peace targeted returning refugees and the concerns specific to those populations in engaging the electoral process. IFES and UNHCR jointly supported the dissemination of Crusaders for Peace jingles and other voter education messages for would-be returnees during field visit to Kuanka, Kola, and Lene refugee camps in Guinea. The full report of the Crusaders for Peace is attached (see Attachment 5).

#### *Training in International Best Practices*

To ensure that voter education messages were delivered consistent with Liberian legislation pertaining to elections and regulations issued by the NEC, IFES supported a series of trainings in voter education methodology. The series began with trainings for NEC civic educators in the previous quarter and continued in this quarter with trainings for the 100 CSOs accredited by the NEC and 13 disabled people's organizations (DPOs) partnering with IFES on disabilities enfranchisement programming. These trainings took place during the 3<sup>rd</sup> and fourth weeks of April.

Representatives of accredited CSOs were introduced to the official voter education materials produced by the NEC. Organizations were also introduced to basic adult learning techniques to be utilized in combination with the materials distributed. Lastly, participants were prepared to replicate the training for other members of their organizations and networks in order to ensure maximum reach of the training.

By all accounts, voter education messages were widely disseminated throughout the country and the process was generally understood by eligible voters. While information was initially slow to be distributed in the counties, NEC civic educators and CSOs funded by a variety of international organizations managed to get messages out in time for eligible Liberians to register. The initial slow pace of registrations in the first week picked up for the remainder of the process and the final result of more than 1.3 million registrants was considered by most a resounding success.

#### *Technical Assistance to Voter Registration Operations*

In addition to the technical expertise of IFES' on-site advisers identified earlier in this report, a number of short-term consultants and other temporary personnel were provided by IFES in support of the voter registration process. As part of its contract with DRS for the purchase and lease of high-volume scanners, the company provided a technician for installation and testing of the equipment, as well as training of NEC and UNMIL staff in how to maintain the equipment throughout the process. IFES also contracted an accredited scanner technician from Ghana to ensure that the NEC/UNMIL data center had the requisite expertise to troubleshoot problems as they arose. The data center experienced no technical difficulties that could not be overcome with this combination of expertise, leading to enhanced credibility of voter registration operations.

The other significant technological input to the process was a stock of Polaroid cameras on loan/lease from Ghana and Sierra Leone. Cameras were deployed to all registration centers to allow for application of photographs to the voter identification card and registration form of each registrant. IFES hired a Ghanaian camera technician for the duration of the registration process tasked with repairing broken cameras and demonstrating proper camera maintenance to registration personnel.

Lastly, to assist with the unloading of registration materials at registration centers, IFES provided financing for local porters.

## **2. Strengthening the NEC's Infrastructure**

IFES continued to provide support for the development of a portion of the NEC's infrastructure outside of Monrovia this quarter. Through a subgrant to the UN Office of Project Services (UNOPS) and a number of contracts with local construction firms, IFES completed renovation or full construction of offices and storage units at ten (10) of the eighteen (18) sites designated for NEC county offices. The project, initially intended for completion in advance of voter registration, suffered a series of delays due to raw material shortages, over-extension of subcontractors, and, in some cases, inadequate supervision of site work by UNOPS. To cope with delays in the erection of the county offices, the NEC brokered agreements to either rent offices or work out of the county administration buildings or UNMIL offices.

Renovation of offices was completed in the following counties: 1) Harper, Maryland County; 2) Greenville, Sinoe County; 3) Kaweaken, River Gee County; and 4) Zwedru, Grand Gedeh County. Full construction of offices was completed in: 1) Gbarnga, Upper Bong County; 2) Totota, Lower Bong County; 3) Voinjama, Lofa County; 4) Sanniquellie, Upper Nimba County; 5) Robertsport, Grand Cape Mount County; and 6) Bopolu, Gbarpolu County. In addition to construction and renovation services, IFES is outfitting the offices with basic furniture, equipment, supplies, and communications. Radio base stations purchased by IFES were installed in the county offices this quarter. Generators were also supplied to all offices. Supply kits were procured and prepared for delivery by UNMIL, to be carried out in stages.

## **3. Political Finance**

This quarter, IFES continued its work with the NEC and other key stakeholders to develop campaign finance guidelines and monitoring tools for compliance with those regulations. In April, IFES consultant Craig Donsanto returned to Liberia to follow up on an assessment of the capacity of political finance regulators and other key stakeholders in Liberia to implement disclosure and enforcement regulations. Mr. Donsanto advised the NEC on issues relating to disclosure and enforcement and worked with the NEC to further develop appropriate guidelines, as well as reporting forms for political parties and candidates. Mr. Donsanto also chaired a series of workshops with political parties and civil society organizations to seek their input on the guidelines and draft forms, with the aim of building consensus on the appropriate degree and character of regulation of the

political finance system. IFES' experience in other developing democracies has shown that an inclusive approach to formulating a regulatory structure for political finance is critical to the successful implementation of such a system.

Mr. Donsanto's visit served as the foundation for a series of trainings planned for June and July carried out by IFES Senior Advisor for Political Finance Marcin Walecki. Dr. Walecki completed one of a series of three trainings in this quarter. The seminar, with participants from Liberian media outlets, was co-sponsored by the Press Union of Liberia (PUL). Thirty-five journalists from both the print and electronic media discussed topics ranging from a general introduction to money and politics, an overview of Liberia's legal framework concerning campaign finance (led by Counselor Blidi of the NEC), and reporting standards in the Liberian context (led by Joe Mulbah of the University of Liberia). Sample press coverage of the event is attached to this report (see Attachment 6).

#### **4. Delimitation of Electoral Boundaries**

While the voter registration exercise was underway, IFES experts worked with the NEC and international advisers from UNMIL and the European Commission to develop a system for delimitation of electoral boundaries that would meet the unique challenges of delimitation in the Liberian context. With all parties having reached agreement in 2004 that voter registration figures would be utilized as the base data for determining population distribution, the major political hurdles to the delimitation process had been overcome. Technical challenges still remained, however, and the team of delimitation experts set out to draft guidelines that would provide clarity to the process that was to commence immediately following the release of voter registration data.

Guidelines for delimitation (see Attachment 7) were signed and published by the NEC on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May. The guidelines provide for a system of amalgamation of voter registration centers as a means of establishing the geographic parameters of the country's 64 electoral districts. The system allows for relatively equitable representation in the legislature, with minimum representation threshold at the county level, providing for at least 2 seats in the legislature per county.

As a means of mitigating conflict over the impending exercise, the NEC established a memorandum of understanding with members of the Inter-party Consultative Committee establishing agreement on the methodology for allocating seats to the counties. This memorandum was signed on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June. The actual delimitation of electoral districts was launched in June, following the tabulation of results from the voter registration process at the registration center level. IFES provided expert advice to this process, supporting the NEC and UNMIL teams charged with amalgamating voter registration centers into single member electoral districts. IFES advisers consulted the NEC on such issues as: different ways of drawing electoral district boundaries (GIS mapping vs. manual) and consideration for protecting communities of interest.

#### **5. CSO Partner Roundtables**

IFES is working with a variety of CSOs to extend the scope and reach of its support to the electoral process leading up to and beyond the October 11 elections. The main issues that IFES is targeting through training, capacity building, and subgrants for CSO partners are: voter education, access for citizens with disabilities, and monitoring and mitigation of electoral violence. During this quarter, IFES-Liberia's Director of Programs launched a roundtable series to prepare CSO partners for the launch of these activities. The roundtables allow for partner input at the design stage of the activities, which enhances the level of buy-in on the part of the Liberian community and ensures that programs do not merely reflect the expertise of international experts, but also reflect the Liberian context. These programs promise to yield results in the way of: mapping and discouraging violence within the electoral process; increasing the participation of people with disabilities in the electoral process; and ensuring adequate levels of voter information throughout the country.

#### *Roundtable with Electoral Violence Education and Resolution (EVER) Partners*

To orient CSO partners to IFES' strategy for monitoring violence related to the electoral process, including the campaign period, IFES conducted a roundtable in June. Issues addressed at the roundtable included: the draft incident reporting form developed by IFES, the draft civic education manual to be published by the NEC from a peace-building perspective, and a geographic coverage matrix of all partners. As a result of the discussions, the incident form is being redrafted and additions were made to the civic education manual. In order to ensure adequate coverage throughout the country, IFES intends to provide subgrants to CSOs, who will require funding in order to conduct proper monitoring. IFES is also partnering with a number of other international organizations on this initiative, including the Carter Center, UNMIL, and CHF.

#### *Roundtable with DPOs*

IFES has provided sustained support to disabled people's organizations in Liberia and their efforts to gain better access to the electoral process for their constituents through legal, procedural, and education reform. As part of this program, IFES will be providing DPOs with subgrants to support voter education activities targeting people with disabilities. In June, IFES convened DPOs to discuss the following issues: the civic education manual from a disabilities perspective; lessons learned from voter registration outreach; CSO capacity building for the disabilities community; and the next steps on consultation with the NEC and political parties. The roundtable discussions also provided DPOs an opportunity to coordinate their voter education activities, limiting the possibility of duplication programmatically or geographically. The activities of DPOs are critical to ensuring adequate participation on behalf of people with disabilities in Liberia, estimated to represent 10-20% of the total Liberian population.

#### *Roundtable with CSOs accredited by NEC*

IFES also sponsored a roundtable with CSOs accredited for voter and civic education activities by the NEC this quarter. Sixty of the 100 accredited CSOs attended the event. Participants worked on different sections of the civic education manual and provided feedback to the NEC voter and civic education subcommittee. Accredited CSOs worked



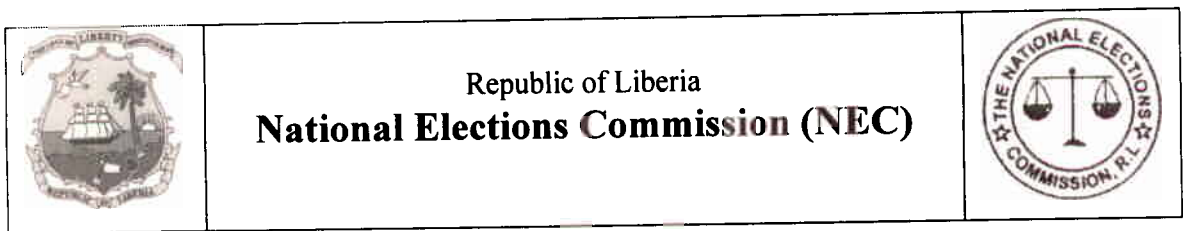
in small groups and gave ideas and examples relevant to the Liberian situation. Their comments and concerns will be reflected in the final version of the civic education manual to be published next quarter.

#### **Activities Planned for Next Quarter (July 1 – September 30, 2005)**

- Training for key election stakeholders in election dispute resolution
- Training for and subgrants to DPOs and CBOs for voter education activities
- Supporting to the process of drafting procedures and regulations for: complaints and appeals, candidate nomination, polling, and others as applicable
- Technical assistance in finalizing NEC civic education manual, in partnership with NEC, UNMIL, and UNDP
- Printing of civic education manual and NEC procedures and forms as applicable
- Political finance seminars for CSOs, political parties, and the NEC
- Capacity-building for the NEC audit committee
- Support to operational planning by NEC for election day preparations
- Procurement of election materials, to be coordinated with the NEC, UNMIL and European-funded partners

#### **Attachments**

1. Voter Registration Regulations
2. Guidelines for Observers
3. Voter Education Handbook
4. Voter Education Leaflets and Flyers
5. Crusaders for Peace Final Report
6. Press coverage of IFES political finance seminar
7. Delimitation Guidelines



# Voter Registration Regulations

**12 April 2005**

## **PREAMBLE**

WHEREAS, Article 89 of the January 6, 1986 Constitution of the Republic of Liberia established the Elections Commission as an autonomous public Commission;

WHEREAS, Section 9, Chapter 2 of the 1986 Elections Law empowers the Elections Commission to formulate and enforce electoral guidelines;

WHEREAS, the National Elections Commission successor to the Elections Commission, was reconstituted by the Comprehensive Peace Agreement signed in Accra, Ghana, on 18th August 2003;

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Peace Agreement mandates that the electoral system in Liberia be reformed in order to ensure that the rights and interests of all Liberians are guaranteed, and that the elections are organized in a manner that is acceptable to all;

WHEREAS, the National Elections Commission recognizes the vital need for an accurate and comprehensive register of eligible Liberian voters, and the need to prepare such a register in a transparent and expedient manner;

### **NOW THEREFORE:**

**The National Elections Commission hereby promulgates, pursuant to section 3.10 of the New Elections Law of 1986, the following regulations:**

## Table of contents

	<i>Page</i>
<b>Part I: General</b>	
1. Citation	3
2. Definitions	3
<b>Part II: Registration</b>	
3. Dates of Registration of all eligible Liberian voters in Liberia	3
4. Adjustment of dates for registration exercise	3
5. Eligibility criteria for registration	3
6. Requirements for registration	4
7. Registration center	4
8. Prohibition against multiple registration	4
9. Internally displaced persons	4
10. Special provisions for returnees	4
11. Accreditation of political party representatives	5
12. Duties and obligations of political party representatives	5
13. Domestic and international observers	5
14. Security officials	6
15. Restrictions on political activities and material near registration centers	6
16. Registration officials	6
17. Powers of Registrar	6
18. Rejection of application for registration	6
19. Appeal against rejection of application	7
20. Registration roll	7
21. Exhibition of provisional registration roll	7
22. Claims and objections during the exhibition of the provisional registration roll	8
23. Statement of claims and objections	8
24. Time for making claims and objections	8
25. Determination of claims for inclusion and correction	8
26. Determination of objections	8
<b>Part III: Appeals</b>	
27. Appeals to the Commission	9
28. Appeals to Supreme Court	9
<b>Part IV: Registration Roll</b>	
29. Certification of the registration roll	9
30. Publication of certified registration roll	9
31. Copies of the certified registration roll	9
32. Publication of documents	10
33. Misnomer	10
<b>Annex</b>	
Sample voter's card	11

## **Part I: GENERAL**

### **1. Citation**

These regulations may be cited as the Voter Registration Regulations.

### **2. Definitions**

(1) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) "Registration Exercise" means the registration and exhibition activities as well as the determination of claims and objections.
- (b) "The Commission" means the National Elections Commission
- (c) "The Law" means the New Elections Law of 1986;
- (d) "The Magistrate of Elections" means the election official defined as such in the Law and appointed for a particular area or county;
- (e) "The Reform Law" means the Electoral Reform Law of 2004;
- (f) "Polling place" means a place in which voters cast their votes during an election, designated by the Commission as such to serve a voting precinct;
- (g) "Registrar" means the person appointed by, or on behalf of, the Commission who will manage and be responsible for the activities of a team of registration officials at a registration center.

(2) A reference in these regulations to a regulation shall be construed as a reference to a provision contained in these regulations.

## **Part II: REGISTRATION**

### **3. Dates of registration of all eligible Liberian voters in Liberia**

There shall be a registration of all eligible Liberian persons in Liberia from the period beginning 25 April through 21 May 2005. There will be no registration outside of Liberia.

### **4. Adjustment of dates for registration exercise**

If required due to exceptional or unforeseen circumstances, the Commission may decide to adjust the dates for the conduct of the registration exercise.

### **5. Eligibility criteria for registration**

Every citizen of Liberia who has attained the age of eighteen (18) or older between 25 April and 21 May 2005 who has not been judicially declared to be incompetent, or of unsound mind or who has not been disenfranchised as a result of conviction of an infamous crime will be eligible to register.

## **6. Requirements for registration**

(1) Where the Registrar is satisfied that an applicant meets the legal criteria for registration, the Registrar shall register the applicant and issue a voter's card as provided in Annex 1.

(2) Where the Registrar is not satisfied that an applicant meets the legal criteria for registration, the Registrar shall request proof of eligibility.

(3) Proof of eligibility shall include any of the following:

- (a) The sworn testimony of two other registered voters who shall appear in person before the Registrar and confirm the applicant's eligibility to register; or
- (b) Confirmation by a Liberian traditional leader who shall appear in person before the Registrar and confirm the applicant's eligibility to register; or
- (c) A valid Liberian passport; or
- (d) A certificate of naturalization; or
- (e) A birth certificate; or
- (f) A certificate of renunciation of citizenship of another country.

## **7. Registration center**

(1) The Commission may establish registration centers wherever it deems necessary that are accessible to all, especially those with disabilities, that are free from intimidation and located in politically neutral areas.

(2) Not later than two (2) weeks before the first day of registration, the Commission shall publish the list of the location of the place of registration centers.

## **8. Prohibition against multiple registration**

A person shall be registered for no more than one registration center and shall not register more than once in any given registration center.

## **9. Internally displaced persons**

Internally displaced persons residing in camps who are eligible to vote may register either for the registration center in the camp where they reside or for their county of origin. If the internally displaced person registers for a registration center in his/her county of origin, he/she must vote only at the location of that registration center.

## **10. Special provisions for returnees**

(1) There shall be a special extension period of registration for returnees between 23 May to 4 June 2005.

(2) Only returnees who can produce a UNHCR issued Voluntary Repatriation Form indicating that they returned to Liberia after 21 May 2005 may register.

(3) These Returnees must register at the Magistrate's office in the county where they intend to vote.

## **11. Accreditation of political party representatives**

- (1) Every registered political party shall be entitled to nominate not more than two representatives in connection with the registration exercise at every registration center, and at the Magistrate's office during the period of determination.
- (2) Only one political party representative from each political party shall be allowed inside the registration center and at the office of the Magistrate at a time while the registration exercise is underway.
- (3) Each registered political party may nominate its representatives to serve as political party representatives and shall, within three days after the nomination, inform the Magistrate of Elections in writing of the name of persons whom it has nominated.
- (4) Prior to being accredited by or on the authority of the Commission, the political party representatives shall sign a pledge to respect and uphold the code of conduct for political parties.
- (5) The Magistrate of Elections shall issue the representatives with identification cards.
- (6) The Magistrate of Elections shall inform the Commission in writing of all the names of political party representatives accredited in their respective counties.
- (7) A registered political party may at any time and with written notice to the Magistrate of Elections, revoke the nomination of any representative as a political party representative, and replace that person with another.

## **12. Duties and obligations of political party representatives**

- (1) Every political party representative duly accredited may monitor the registration exercise carried out by the registration officials at the registration center or office of the Magistrate of Elections for which he or she is accredited.
- (2) The Registrar may, notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary contained in these regulations, order any political party representative to leave the registration center until such time as the political party representative complies with his/her duties and obligations pursuant to this regulation.
- (3) Political party representatives shall not interfere with the registration exercise at a registration center except as provided for in these regulations.
- (4) Political party representatives in a registration center shall not make any remark aimed at influencing other persons on the premises.
- (5) Political party representatives shall not display anything which identifies them as a representative of a particular political party.
- (6) Every political party representative shall display the identification issued to him/her by the Magistrate of Elections. If requested by a Magistrate of Elections or registration official, the representative shall also produce a copy of the letter of his/her nomination by the political party.
- (7) The Registrar or Magistrate of Elections may, notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary contained in these regulations, order any political party representative to leave the registration center or office of the Magistrate of Elections until such time as the representative consents to comply with his/her duties and obligations pursuant to this regulation.

## **13. Domestic and international observers**

Observers duly accredited by the Commission may observe the registration exercise at registration centers and during the determination of claims and objections, at the office

of the Magistrate of Elections. Observers shall be governed by guidelines issued by the Commission.

#### **14. Security officials**

Police officers and other security officials shall be permitted to enter or remain in a registration center only if requested by the Registrar to do so. While in the registration center or office of the Magistrate, security officials shall be subject to the instruction of the Registrar or Magistrate.

#### **15. Restrictions on political activities and material near registration centers**

Distribution or posting of political materials inside registration centers or within two hundred (200) yards of the registration center shall be prohibited. No political or propaganda debates shall be allowed inside the registration centers or within two hundred (200) yards of the registration center.

#### **16. Registration officials**

(1) The Commission shall, in appointing registration officials pursuant to section 2.29 of the Law, ensure that every person takes and signs an oath or affirmation in the prescribed form to faithfully perform the duties imposed under the Law without partiality, fear, favour or affection.

(2) No person who is a political party official or representative, a candidate for election, a member of the National Transitional Legislative Assembly, or an executive appointee, shall be appointed as a registration official.

(3) No person shall be appointed to the office of registration official if he or she has not completed a course of training to the satisfaction of the Commission.

#### **17. Powers of the Registrar**

(1) The Registrar shall keep order at the registration center by regulating the number of applicants to be admitted at a time and excluding all other persons except other registration officials, political party representatives, observers and other such officials as authorized by the Commission.

(2) The Registrar may order any person excluding any person referred to in sub-regulation (1), to leave the registration center and shall, when he/she makes such an order, make a written report to the Magistrate of Elections.

(3) Any person who fails to leave the registration center when so ordered in accordance with these regulations shall be deemed to have committed an offence and may, by order of the Registrar, be removed from the registration center.

(4) The Registrar may take such steps as are deemed necessary for the protection of anyone in the registration center to stop or prevent any violence or disturbance therein.

(5) The powers conferred by this section shall as far as possible not be exercised to prevent a qualified applicant from having an opportunity to register.



## **18. Rejection of application for registration**

- (1) Where the Registrar is not satisfied that the applicant meets the legal requirements for registration, he/she shall issue to that applicant a notice of rejection in the prescribed form stating the reasons for rejection.
- (2) The Registrar shall maintain a record showing the names and other particulars of every applicant whose application for registration has been rejected by him/her.

## **19. Appeal against rejection of application**

- (1) Throughout the registration period, the Registrar shall publicize the manner in which, and the time within which, appeals against rejections may be made.
- (2) Any person who is aggrieved by a decision of the Registrar may appeal to the Magistrate of Elections concerned during the three day determination period of 6 July to 8 July 2005.
- (3) The Magistrate of Elections shall determine whether or not the appeal has any merit during the determination period of 6 to 8 July 2005.
- (4) If the Magistrate of Elections determines that the appeal has merit, a voter's card will be issued in the prescribed form (Annex 1).
- (5) A record will be kept of all appeals that are rejected by the Magistrate of Elections.
- (6) The results of the determination of all appeals shall be posted at both the registration center concerned and office of the Magistrate of Elections concerned.
- (8) Any person who wishes to appeal the decision of the Magistrate of Elections may make an appeal to the Commission.
- (9) Any person aggrieved of a decision by the Commission may appeal the matter to the Supreme Court not later than seven (7) days after the decision is rendered, whose decision shall be final.

## **20. Registration roll**

The registration roll shall be prepared in separate parts for each polling place. Each record in the registration roll prepared for each polling place shall include the voter identification number, name, age, sex and photograph of the person whose name appears.

## **21. Exhibition of provisional registration roll**

- (1) The provisional registration roll shall be exhibited at the registration centers between 30 June and 2 July 2005.
- (2) The Magistrate of Elections shall not later than seven days before the first day of exhibition of the provisional registration roll publish a notice in the prescribed form specifying the period and location of exhibition.
- (3) The provisional registration roll for those internally displaced persons who registered in camps for a registration center in their County of Origin shall be exhibited in both:
  - (a) the registration center in their County of Origin; and
  - (b) the registration center in the internally displaced persons camp in which they registered.

(4) The provisional registration roll for those returnees who registered during the extended registration period shall be exhibited at the registration center for which they registered.

## **22. Claims and objections during the exhibition of the provisional registration roll**

- (1) Only those with a valid voter's card may make a claim for inclusion or correction during the exhibition period.
- (2) Only those with a valid voter's card or those eligible to register may make an objection to inclusion during the exhibition period.
- (3) All claims or objections shall be made on the forms prescribed by the Commission.
- (4) For those internally displaced persons who have registered in camps for their county of origin, claims for inclusion and correction can be made at both:
  - (a) the registration center in their county of origin: and
  - (b) the registration center in the internally displaced persons camp in which they registered.
- (5) For those internally displaced persons who have registered in camps for their county of origin, objections can be made at only the registration center in their county of origin.

## **23. Statement of claims and objections**

A statement of claims and objections shall be made available for inspection at the exhibition center.

## **24. Time for making claims and objections**

A claim or objection in respect of the provisional registration roll can be made only during the exhibition period of 30 June to 2 July 2005.

## **25. Determination of claims for inclusion and correction**

- (1) The determination of claims for inclusion and correction shall be made by the Registrar at the time the claim is made.
- (2) If the Registrar determines that the claim for inclusion or correction is valid, such determination shall be transmitted to the Magistrate of Elections who will send the decision to the Data Center for inclusion or correction.
- (3) If the Registrar determines that the claim for inclusion or correction is invalid, the decision should be posted at the exhibition center during the exhibition period.

## **26. Determination of objections**

- (1) Objections are received at the exhibition center by the Registrar during the exhibition period and forwarded to the Magistrate of Elections for determination.
- (2) The determination of objections shall be made by the Magistrate of Elections during the period for the determination which shall be from 11 July to 13 July 2005.
- (3) The Magistrate of Elections shall not later than seven days before the period of determination of objections post a notice stating the period and location.

(3) If the Magistrate of Elections determines that the objection is not valid, the reasons for the Magistrate's determination shall be made available and recorded in the prescribed form.

(4) If the Magistrate of Elections determines that the objection is valid, the reasons for the Magistrate's determination shall be recorded in the prescribed form. Such decision shall be posted at the exhibition center. Moreover, the person whose inclusion is objected to and accepted shall be notified by public notice.

(5) Objections to the inclusion of internally displaced persons on the provisional registration roll shall be referred to the Magistrate of Elections in their County of origin.

### **Part III: APPEALS**

#### **27. Appeals to the Commission**

Any person affected by a determination by the Magistrate of Elections may appeal within seven (7) days of the determination to the Commission.

#### **28. Appeals to Supreme Court**

Any person affected by a determination of the Commission may appeal the matter to the Supreme Court not later than seven (7) days after the decision is rendered. The decision of the Supreme Court shall be final.

### **Part IV: REGISTRATION ROLL**

#### **29. Certification of the registration roll**

(1) The Board of Commissioners shall, after the claims and objections have been determined and alterations made, certify the registration rolls and cause them to be printed and bound separately in respect of each polling place.

(2) The certified rolls shall be deemed to be the registration rolls for the respective polling places and shall remain in force until rendered invalid by subsequent certified registration rolls.

#### **30. Publication of certified registration roll**

The Commission shall make a copy of the certified registration roll available to the Magistrate of Elections at his/her office where it shall remain available for inspection.

#### **31. Copies of the certified registration roll**

The Commission shall make electronic copies of the certified registration roll available upon request as prescribed by the Commission.

**32. Publication of documents**

- (1) Any failure to publish a document in accordance with these regulations shall not invalidate the document, however, it shall not relieve the appropriate officer from any penalty for such failure.
- (2) Documents shall be made available for inspection, pursuant to these regulations, during ordinary business hours.
- (3) Where a document is made available for inspection, any person may make a copy of, or take extracts from, such document.


**33. Misnomer**


No misnomer or inaccurate description of any person or place in any notice, registration roll, list of claims or objections, shall prejudice the operation of that document with respect to that person in any case where the description of the person or place is such as to be commonly understood.


Annex


NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION				 Registration 2008	
TRAINING <i>Voter's Card</i> TRAINING					
County		Registration Center Code			
MONTSERRADO		30001			
Age	25				
		Voter ID Number			
Sex	M	123456789			
Name: SMITH ROBERT					
				 Photo	


**DONE UNDER OUR HANDS AND SEAL OF THE NATIONAL  
ELECTIONS COMMISSION (NEC) THIS 12<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF April A.D. 2005**

  
Mary N. Brownell  
COMMISSIONER

  
Jonathan K. Weedor  
COMMISSIONER

  
James K. Chelley Sr.  
COMMISSIONER

  
Elizabeth J. Boyenneh  
COMMISSIONER

  
Karmo Soko Sackor, Sr.  
COMMISSIONER

  
James M. Fromayan  
Co-CHAIRMAN

  
Cllr. Frances Johnson-Morris  
CHAIRMAN



Republic of Liberia  
**National Elections Commission (NEC)**



# **Guidelines and Code of Conduct for Observers**

**13 April 2005**

# **PREAMBLE**

WHEREAS, Article 89 of the January 6, 1986 Constitution of the Republic of Liberia established the Elections Commission as an autonomous public Commission;

WHEREAS, Section 9, Chapter 2 of the 1986 Elections Law empowers the Elections Commission to formulate and enforce electoral guidelines;

WHEREAS, the National Elections Commission, successor to the Elections Commission, was re-constituted by the Comprehensive Peace Agreement signed in Accra, Ghana, on 18th August 2003;

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Peace Agreement mandates that the electoral system in Liberia be reformed in order to ensure that the rights and interests of all Liberians are guaranteed, and that the elections are organized in a manner that is acceptable to all;

WHEREAS, the National Elections Commission welcomes the participation of accredited organizations and individuals to observe all aspects of the October 2005 elections, in order to ensure transparency and accountability in the electoral process;

## **NOW THEREFORE:**

**The National Elections Commission hereby promulgates the following Guidelines for Observers and Code of Conduct for Observers:**





Republic of Liberia  
**National Elections Commission (NEC)**



# **Guidelines for Observers**

## Table of Contents

	<i>Page</i>
<b>Part I. General provisions</b>	<b>1</b>
Section 1. Citation	1
Section 2. Definitions	1
Section 3. Observation by accredited domestic and international organizations	1
 <b>Part II. Accreditation of observers</b>	
Section 4. Request for accreditation of observer organizations	2
Section 5. Decision of Commission on accreditation	3
Section 6. Appointment of observers	3
 <b>Part III. Other provisions</b>	
Section 7. Rights and obligations of observers	4
Section 8. Revocation of accreditation of observer organizations	5

**Part I.**  
**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Section 1. Citation**

These guidelines may be cited as the Guidelines for Observers.

**Section 2. Definitions**

- (1) In these Guidelines, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (a) “Observer” means a person representing an organization accredited by the National Elections Commission for the purpose of observing all electoral processes conducted by the Commission, without interfering in the processes;
  - (b) “The Commission” means the National Elections Commission;
  - (c) “Electoral process” means all electoral activities conducted by the Commission, including voter registration, exhibition of the provisional registration roll, claims and objections to the provisional roll, the registration of political parties, the nomination of candidates, polling and counting, and the compilation and announcement of results;
  - (d) “The Election Law” means the 1986 New Elections Law, as amended.

**Section 3. Observation by accredited domestic and international organizations**

- (1) The right to observe the electoral process is safeguarded by law (Section 4.10, of the 1986 New Elections Law, as amended by the 2004 Electoral Reform Law, Section 13).
- (2) Domestic organizations and international organizations may appoint persons to observe the electoral process following their accreditation by the Commission. Such organizations shall hereinafter be collectively referred to as observer organizations.
- (3) The following bodies shall have the right to apply for accreditation to observe the electoral process:
- (a) Domestic organizations, existing under the association laws of Liberia by virtue of their articles of incorporation, which have been accredited by the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs;
  - (b) International and regional intergovernmental organizations;
  - (c) Representatives of states and foreign missions; and
  - (d) International non-governmental organizations permitted to exercise their activities in accordance with the laws effective in their home countries.

- (4) The Commission shall, to the extent practical, extend all possible cooperation to observer organizations and their appointed observers and provide all non-confidential information in response to queries. However, the Commission shall not be under any obligation to provide support, facilities or services beyond or other than those set out in the present guidelines.
- (5) The provisions of these guidelines shall not apply to political parties, political party representatives, or independent candidates or their organizations.

## **Part II:**

### **ACCREDITATION OF OBSERVERS**

#### **Section 4. Request for accreditation by observer organizations**

- (1) The person or persons authorized to represent an observer organization shall submit a written request for accreditation to the Commission, using Form OB 001.
- (2) With respect to a domestic organization, the request for observer accreditation shall be accompanied by;
  - (a) Copy of proof of accreditation by Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs or of Articles of Incorporation; and
  - (b) The Declaration of Observer Organization (Form OB 002).
- (3) With respect to an international organization the request for observer accreditation shall be accompanied by
  - (a) Copy of proof of registration in the country of origin or instrument establishing the organization; and
  - (b) The Declaration of Observer Organization (Form OB 002).
- (4) The observer organization shall also furnish such further information or documentation as may be required by the Commission.
- (5) Domestic organizations based in Monrovia and international organizations shall submit the request for accreditation to the headquarters of the Commission in Monrovia, to the Liaison Office.
- (6) Domestic organizations based outside of Monrovia may either submit the request for accreditation to the Commission's headquarters (sub-section 4(5) of these guidelines) or may submit the request for accreditation to the Office of the Magistrate of Elections in the county where the organization is based.

- (6) Forms to request accreditation shall be available at the headquarters of the Commission in Monrovia, at the Liaison Office, and at offices of the Magistrates for Elections and shall be free of charge.
- (7) A request for accreditation shall be submitted to the Commission not later than two (2) weeks before elections day.
- (8) As soon as practicable, the Commission shall inform that applicant organization in writing that its application has been received.

#### **Section 5. Decision of Commission on accreditation**

- (1) If the Commission finds that the application of a domestic or international organization for accreditation complies with the requirements set out herein, it shall accredit the applicant for the purpose of these guidelines and notify the applicant in writing within seven (7) days of receipt of a complete and accurate request for accreditation. The Commission shall also request the accredited organization to submit its list of appointed observers.
- (2) If the Commission finds that the application of a domestic or international organization accreditation does not comply with the requirements set out herein, it shall notify the applicant in writing of its decision and its reasons. Deficiencies in the application may be rectified by the applicant, without prejudice to the deadline of submitting requests for accreditation pursuant to sub-section 4(7) of these guidelines.
- (3) Decisions of the Commission with regard to applications are final.
- (4) The Commission shall issue a Certificate of Observer Accreditation to an applicant organization whose request for accreditation complies with the requirements set out herein.

#### **Section 6. Appointment of observers**

- (1) A domestic or international organization which has been accredited by the Commission in accordance with these guidelines may appoint observers to observe the electoral process. Observers appointed by accredited organizations shall be considered accredited by the Commission.
- (2) Written notice of the appointed observers shall be submitted to the Commission by the accredited observer organization using Form OB 003.

- (3) The accredited organization shall submit the completed Form OB003 to the Commission's headquarters or office of the Magistrate of Elections, whichever had granted the accreditation for the organization.
- (4) The forms giving notice of appointment of observers shall be available at the headquarters of the Commission in Monrovia, at the Liaison Office, and at offices of the Magistrates for Elections and shall be free of charge.
- (5) Upon accreditation of an organization, the Commission shall issue observer identification cards to the organization, on the basis of information submitted by the organization in Form OB 003.
- (6) The observer identification card shall include the logo of the Commission and the signature of the authorized official of the Commission.
- (7) The accredited organization shall issue the appointed observers with the observer identification cards issued by the Commission.
- (8) The accredited organization shall also issue the Code of Conduct to the appointed observers.

### **Part III.** **OTHER PROVISIONS**

#### **Section 7. Rights and obligations of observers**

- (1) Every accredited observer is entitled to attend and observe at any time the electoral process at registration centers, exhibition centers, polling places and at other premises used for the electoral process by the Commission or its officials.
- (2) Every accredited observer shall abide by the Election Law, regulations and guidelines issued by the Commission, the Guidelines for Observers, and the Code of Conduct for Observers.
- (3) Every accredited observer shall be knowledgeable about the Election Law, regulations and guidelines issued by the Commission, the Guidelines for Observers, and the Code of Conduct for Observers, and electoral procedures.
- (4) Observers shall be impartial and neutral while observing electoral activities. No observer shall interfere with electoral activities.

- (5) Observers shall, while observing electoral activities, visibly display their accreditation badges and any other documentation required by the Commission.
- (6) The observer may wear additional identification issued by his/her organization identifying him/her as an observer of the organization.
- (7) An observer shall not wear or carry any insignia or sign that associates him/her with a political party or a candidate.
- (8) Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in these guidelines, an observer may be ordered by an official of the Commission in charge of a registration center, polling place or other location where electoral processes are conducted, to leave the registration center, polling place or other location until such time as the observer consents to comply with the provisions of these Guidelines and the Code of Conduct for Observers. Any observer who fails to leave the registration center, polling place, or other location when so ordered thereby commits an offence.
- (9) Space considerations and the need to maintain an orderly flow of registrants or voters may limit the number of observers that can be allowed at any one time in the registration center or polling place, or any other place or premises where electoral processes are conducted. In such cases, a duly authorized registration or electoral official may establish a schedule allowing all observers equal access to the process.

**Section 8. Revocation of accreditation of observer organizations**

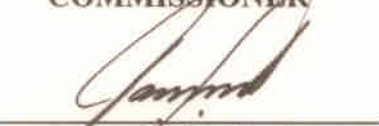
- (1) The Commission may revoke the accreditation of an observer organization and/or any of its appointed observers upon a determination that the individual or organization has:
  - (a) failed to comply with a lawful instruction, direction or order issued by or on behalf of the Commission;
  - (b) demonstrated a bias in favor of a particular candidate or political party;
  - (c) hindered or obstructed any official of the Commission in the conduct of his or her duties; or
  - (d) infringed the Guidelines for Observers or the Code of Conduct for Observers.

**Approval of Guidelines for Observers:**

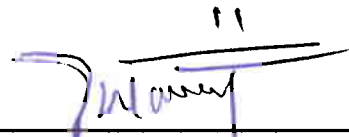
DONE UNDER OUR HANDS AND SEAL OF THE  
NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION (NEC)  
THIS 14<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL A.D. 2005

**Signed:**

  
Mary N. Brownell  
**COMMISSIONER**

  
James K. Chelley  
**COMMISSIONER**

  
Karmo Soko Sackor, Sr.  
**COMMISSIONER**

  
Jonathan K. Weedor  
**COMMISSIONER**

  
Elizabeth J. Boyenneh  
**COMMISSIONER**

  
James M. Froman  
**Co-CHAIRMAN**

  
Cllr. Frances Johnson-Morris  
**CHAIRMAN**





Republic of Liberia  
**National Elections Commission (NEC)**



# **Code of Conduct for Observers**

## **Code of Conduct for Observers**

- (1) The National Elections Commission is pleased to accredit domestic and international observers to observe all electoral processes for the October 2005 elections, including voter registration, exhibition of the provisional registration roll, claims and objections to the provisional roll, the registration of political parties, the nomination of candidates, polling and counting, and the compilation and announcement of results.
- (2) Observation is the purposeful gathering of information regarding an electoral process, without interfering in the process itself, and the issuing of remarks and reports on the conduct of such a process on the basis of factual information collected by persons accredited by the National Elections Commission (NEC) for such a purpose. The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to ensure that observation is neutral, non-partisan, comprehensive and accurate, and that it is carried out with integrity and transparency. To this end, every observer organization and individual observer shall:
  - (a) Adhere to the laws of the Republic of Liberia and do nothing that interferes in the internal affairs of the country;
  - (b) Do nothing that interferes with the normal course of the electoral process and that impedes that process, or that hinders the officials of the National Elections Commission in the performance of their duties, including providing advice or direction relating to their duties;
  - (c) Respect the role, status and authority of NEC officials, including international advisers to the National Elections Commission, and comply with all lawful instructions or directions given by NEC officials;
  - (d) Avail themselves of briefings and other information on the electoral process provided by the NEC, and be knowledgeable about the conduct of the electoral process by the Commission;
  - (e) Refrain from touching any registration or election material and equipment without the express consent of an NEC official;
  - (f) Bring to the attention of the Commission any breakdown in operations at a registration center, polling place or other location where electoral activities are conducted;
  - (g) Submit their report or reports to the Commission in a timely fashion so that the findings and recommendations contained therein can be considered by the Commission;
  - (h) Not give unauthorized information or guidance to persons involved in the electoral process, and avoid providing interpretations of the legal framework;
  - (i) Not announce election results without the authority of the National Elections Commission;

- (j) Wear or otherwise display prominently the Observer identification card at all times when engaged in observation efforts.
- (3) Moreover, every observer organization and individual observer shall:
- (a) Act in a strictly neutral and unbiased manner in relation to national authorities, political parties, candidates, voters and persons wishing to register as voters, other observers, and representatives of the media.
  - (b) Avoid doing anything that could indicate, or could be seen as indicating, partisan support or sympathy for a candidate, political party, political actor or political tendency, including the participation in any function or activity that could lead to a perception of such support or sympathy.
  - (c) Disclose to the Commission any relationship that could lead to a conflict of interest with his/her duties as observer, or with the process of observation.
  - (d) Not accept any gift or favor from a political party, organization, or person involved in the election process.
  - (e) Not communicate with any voter or applicant for registration on a matter of partisan significance.
  - (f) Take all reasonable steps to substantiate findings and conclusions that are made in connection with the conduct of the electoral process. If an assertion cannot be substantiated, the observer's report shall so state that he/she was unable to verify the finding.
-

# Forms



Republic of Liberia  
National Elections Commission (NEC)



## Request for Accreditation: Observer Organization

1. Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street / PO Box

City

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Principal Officers:

A. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

B. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Statement of the activities of the observer organization, including the processes it intends to observe:

---

---

4. Person authorized by the observer organization to represent the organization and liaise with the Commission:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Number of observers to be appointed by the organization: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Proposed deployment plan (list counties and number of observers assigned to each):

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR ACCREDITATION**

In addition to this Form, please submit:

**FOR DOMESTIC ORGANIZATIONS**

1. Certificate of Accreditation by the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs
2. Articles of Incorporation
3. Form OB 002 – Declaration of Observer

**FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

1. Proof of registration in the country of origin or instrument establishing the organization
2. Form OB 002 – Declaration of Observer

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Republic of Liberia  
**National Elections Commission (NEC)**



## **Declaration of Observer Organization**

\_\_\_\_\_ (*name of organization*)  
hereby confirms its commitment and that of its appointed observers to adhere to the law of Liberia, regulations and guidelines issued by the National Elections Commission, Guidelines for Observers and the Code of Conduct for Observers, and such other or further instructions issued by the Commission.

Additionally, the organization named above hereby confirms that it has no relationship with or is engaged in any activity on behalf of, a political party, a party candidate or an independent candidate in Liberia; and that its appointed observers are not seeking elective public office.

It is understood that the accreditation of the herein organization as an observer may be revoked by the National Elections Commission if, among other reasons, it determines that the organization or any of the appointed observers of the organization have infringed the Guidelines for Observers or the Code of Conduct for Observers.

**Submitted by:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**For Official Use:**

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Republic of Liberia  
National Elections Commission (NEC)



## List of Observers

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

No.	Name	Nationality	Address	Local contact organization in Liberia (if international)	Arrival date in Liberia (if international)
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					

### For Official Use:

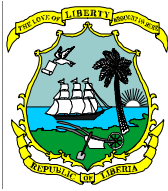
Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_





**NATIONAL ELECTIONS  
COMMISSION**



**VOTER EDUCATION MANUAL**

**PART I: VOTER REGISTRATION**

Liberia, March 2005

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Welcome Note</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Section 1. Voter and Civic Education and the Electoral Process</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>The National Elections Commission</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>The Electoral Calendar</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>The Voter and Civic Education Program</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Code of Conduct for CSOs</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Section 2. Methodology for Voter Education Educators</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Activities: Guidelines for Planning Purposes</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Electoral Materials: Types and Distribution Channels</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Meetings &amp; Gatherings – Guidelines for Planning Purposes</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Tips on Adult Learning</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Basic Training Skills</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>NEC – CSOs Coordination</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Voter Education Activity Form</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Contact Details for Suggestions or Comments</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Section 3. Training Module on Voter Education: Voter Registration</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>About the Training Module on Voter Education: Voter Registration</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Training Module on Voter Education: Voter Registration</b>	<b>33</b>

## **WELCOME NOTE**

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Voter and Civic Education Program of the National Elections Commission (NEC) of the Republic of Liberia.

Liberian citizens will go to the polls to elect a democratic government through free and fair elections on October 11, 2005. By voting objectively, freely, fairly and sensibly, Liberians will be shaping their own future and that of their children and other future generations.

The NEC has vested great confidence in your organizations and has accredited you to conduct voter and civic education. We are aware of the challenges ahead and we view our joint mission to implement an effective voter and civic education campaign as integral to the success of the upcoming elections.

Voter education is intended to ensure that the conduct of citizens, political parties and candidates is appropriate to a peaceful election, acceptance of results, and tolerance of competition.

We need to educate all Liberians about how and why to participate as well as empowering citizens with their democratic rights to choose who they think best represents their interests and aspirations. We recognize this is the only way forward towards integration, stability, and democracy in our country.

You are our most valuable resource in ensuring that all citizens receive the necessary information to participate in this electoral process. You will also be the first point of contact for many citizens in helping them to understand their role in developing democracy in Liberia. We encourage you to take up this challenging task with commitment and enthusiasm.

With our best wishes,

Cllr. Frances Johnson-Morris  
*Chairman of the NEC*



Section 1.

**VOTER AND CIVIC EDUCATION  
AND THE  
ELECTORAL PROCESS**

# THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION

## I. INTRODUCTION

The National Elections Commission (NEC) was established by the 1986 Constitution – Article 89 (B). The NEC was by statute composed of five members called Commissioners. However, an act of the Legislature which was passed in 2003 increased the number of Commissioners to seven. This increment was also upheld by the provisions of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) on Liberia signed in Accra, Ghana on August 18, 2003 (see Article XIX of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement).

In fact, the CPA mandated the reconstitution of an independent National Elections Commission (NEC), to ensure that the rights and interests of Liberians are guaranteed and that the elections are organized in a manner that is acceptable to all.

## II. THE COMMISSIONERS

The NEC is composed of men and women of integrity appointed by the Chairman of NTGL with the advice and consent of the NTLA. The seven members include a Chairman, a Co-Chairman and five Commissioners.

The Commissioners have specific areas of responsibility. The following table reflects their respective administrative and geographical assignments.

Commissioners	Administrative Assignments	Regional Assignments - Counties
Chairman: <b>Frances Johnson-Morris</b>	Overall Responsibility	Montserrado, Margibi
Co-Chairman: <b>James M. Fromayan</b>	Voter/Civic Education	Sinoe, Grand Gedeh, River Gee
Commissioner: <b>Mary N. Brownell</b>	Finance	Lofa, Gbarpolu
Commissioner: <b>James K. Chelley</b>	Political Affairs	Bomi, Cape Mount
Commissioner: <b>Soko Sackor</b>	General Services	Grand Bassa, Rivercess
Commissioner: <b>Elizabeth J. Boyenneh</b>	International Relations	Bong, Nimba
Commissioner: <b>Jonathan K. Weedor</b>	Training and Staffing	Maryland, Grand Kru

### **III. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NEC**

The NEC has the following competencies:

- Administer and enforce all laws related to the conduct of elections throughout the Republic of Liberia;
- Propose to the National Legislature for enactment, suspension of, and amendment to and repeal of, any provision of the Elections Law that the Commission may deem inimical to the interests of the electorate and stakeholders;
- Give accreditation to, and register all political parties and independent candidates who meet the minimum requirements set by the Commission;
- Revoke the registration and accreditation of an already legal party only upon the judicial determination of a court of competent jurisdiction, in accordance with due process;
- Conduct all elections for elective public offices, including chieftaincy and all referenda and declare the results thereof;
- Formulate and enforce guidelines controlling the conduct of all elections to elective public offices, which guidelines shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of the Constitution and Elections Law;
- Maintain a register of all qualified voters which shall be subject to inspection;
- Establish electoral districts in every political sub-division and reapportion same when necessary and expedient in accordance with population figures;
- Maintain registration documents of political parties and prescribe the kinds of records to be kept by all political parties and independent candidates; and
- To conduct a Voter and Civic Education Campaign.

# THE ELECTORAL CALENDAR

The following table reflects the key electoral dates:

Date	Activity
31 January	NEC Civic/Voter Education Campaign Commences
11 March	Final date for notification by parties of intention to canvass for membership
11 April	Final date for submission of applications to register as a political party
11 April	Last day for publication of list of registration locations
<b>25 April – 21 May</b>	<b>VOTER REGISTRATION</b>
<b>27 June – 1 July</b>	<b>EXHIBITION</b>
10 July	Last day for issuing Writ of Elections
15 July	Publication of Electoral Districts
1 August	Nomination of Candidates begins
15 August	Final date for submission of applications to register as an independent candidate
15 August	Final day for nomination of candidates
30 August	Publication of official final list of candidates
1 September	Political campaign begins
30 September	Last day for list of polling centres to be published
10 October	Campaign period ends (24 hours before election day)
<b>11 October</b>	<b>ELECTION DAY</b>
<b>No later than 26 October</b>	<b>ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS</b>

*\*Note: The NEC may make adjustments to the above dates if necessary. This shall be without prejudice to dates and deadlines established by law.*



# THE VOTER AND CIVIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

Civic and voter education is a crucial step towards strengthening democracy in Liberia given the recent history of the country. The voter and civic education program is viewed as part of the overall recovery, reconciliation and peace building process.

The NEC, an independent institution mandated to organize free and fair elections, shall conduct a voter and civic education campaign program to establish the positive environment within which democratic elections can take place.

## **I. STRATEGIC PLANNING**

The National Elections Commission (NEC) developed a strategic plan for the Voter and Civic Education campaign in collaboration with its international partners: IFES, UNMIL and the EC.

### **A. Goals**

- To restore the faith of the people in the democratic process;
- To promote positive attitudes towards the electoral process and the NEC;
- To promote integrity and transparency of the electoral process; and
- To embark in a process that will contribute to reconciliation of the society.

### **B. Objectives**

- To motivate and encourage citizens to participate in the electoral process;
- To educate as many citizens as possible about their rights and responsibilities;
- To direct a special focus on disadvantaged groups such as women, citizens with disabilities, IDPs, ex-combatants and refugees; and
- To liaise to foster cooperation and common approaches with relevant groups such as the media, NGOs, donors, women groups, youth and other Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

### **C. Strategy**

Civic and voter education will be conducted in an integrated and coordinated approach with the accredited organizations that will conduct educational activities throughout the country in pursuit of the 2005 elections.

### **Geographic Coverage**

The goal of the civic/voter education campaign is to reach voters wherever they may be. Therefore, voter and civic education activities shall take place in the entire territory of Liberia. Coordination among and between the CSOs and the NEC will be crucial to ensuring the widest reach and effect of the civic/voter education campaign throughout the country while preventing duplicative delivery or coverage.

### **Target Group Coverage**

Broad public outreach is a fundamental aspect of the civic/voter education program. Liberia is a country so diverse in its population expressed in different ethnic groups, religions, educational and political backgrounds, customs and traditions, and languages. The civic/voter education campaign will consider such characteristics and produce appropriate materials and messages to reach all the potential voters. Voter and civic education activities, therefore as much as possible will be tailor-made in accordance with the target groups. In addition, it is strongly recommended that the educators themselves come from the areas they will be working in order to maximize the impact of the campaign.

The NEC realizes that certain disadvantaged target groups will need special considerations. These include citizens with disabilities, IDPs, refugees, and women.

A comprehensive civic and voter education campaign targeted to groups who are socially challenged and disadvantaged shall enjoy priority attention by the National Elections Commission, directed at creating access for their participation in electoral process and a more intensive civic/voter education approach for each target group.

## **II. VOTER EDUCATION MANUAL AND CSOs**

### **A. Purpose**

This manual is intended to provide a framework to guide organizations and educators in conducting their voter education activities and in voicing consistent messages.

### **B. Consultative Process with Civil Society Organizations**

The National Elections Commission (NEC) shared the first draft of a Voter and Civic education manual with civil society organizations at

the program's launching campaign in January, which more than one hundred civic groups attended.

The NEC informed the CSOs that the document provided was a draft or a guiding tool and invited the organizations to provide feedback and to make their contributions to the manual.

With the technical support of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI), eighty-six civil society organizations met in February to discuss the manual and to establish a technical committee to provide specific comments. Representatives of the NEC, the Electoral Division of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) and IFES also attended this meeting and facilitated some discussions.

The technical committee, composed of representatives from seventeen Liberian NGOs, then met several times and presented a document with their deliberations to the NEC. The main points of their "Observations, Comments, and Proposals" document included their commitment to continue working closely with the NEC and it also highlighted areas in the manual that needed additional information and further clarification.

In addition, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) responded to the draft with very constructive comments outlining their views on the subjects of voter and civic education and on what areas the Manual on Voter and Civic Education should address.

After careful review of the feedback the NEC decided not only to include the valuable contributions from their partners but also to break down the methodology of the program into two manuals, one for voter education (in two parts, registration and elections) and one for civic education. By dividing the program in different manuals, in accordance with the electoral calendar, the education materials will be simplified and more focused. Moreover, it will allow the NEC and its CSO partners to work closely throughout the electoral process.

### **C. Structure of the NEC's manuals**

The NEC will be producing two Manuals:

- Voter Education Manual -- The manual is composed of two parts:
  - Part I: Voter Registration
  - Part II: Elections
- Civic Education Manual

The Voter Education Manual is divided in two parts corresponding to the most important electoral events for citizens' participation: registration and elections. Part I- Voter Registration- is the one you are currently viewing. Please, refer to page 29 where you will find

the training module on Voter Registration. The timeframe for conducting activities related to the Voter Registration period is from March until end of the registration process.

Part II: Elections, will be published shortly and will be distributed to the accredited civil society organizations conducting voter and civic education. The NEC has decided to launch this second part later as there are still some aspects of the electoral process to be determined. Moreover, our partner IFES is currently preparing a survey to assess electoral attitudes that will help structure the content and target the messages effectively.

A Civic Education Manual will also be provided upon completion of the voter registration process. This manual is intended to prove helpful in explaining citizens' roles in democratic systems and the channels for participation in public affairs as well as providing information on the different stakeholders of the electoral process. The outreach component is envisaged to take place between the end of the registration period and beginning of the elections focused voter education outreach campaign.

### **III. SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The National Elections Commission (NEC) wishes to extend their gratitude to everybody involved in compiling this training manual. Special thanks to:

- IFES, UNMIL and the EC for continuous technical support
- UNDP and NDI for their valuable feedback on the draft manual
- Liberian Civil Society Organizations for attending consultative meetings and for their constructive ideas and their commitment to the voter and civic education program

# CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CSOs

## **I. PRINCIPLES**

Voter education is about empowering the voting population to participate in the electoral process, so they can make informed choices. The information to be provided must therefore be neutral, impartial, independent, timely and rendered in a professional manner.

The most important cross cutting theme in this electoral process is to rebuild the trust and confidence of the society in the democratic processes and to contribute to reconciliation and nation-building. Therefore, educators must themselves believe in that reconciliation and the values of democracy. This code of conduct shall consequently uphold the commitment to impartiality, neutrality and inclusion.

## **II. SCOPE OF DUTY**

- To disseminate information based on content approved by the Commission
- To use additional materials consistent with the Constitution of Liberia, Elections Law, Guidelines, codes of conduct and manuals
- To disseminate unbiased and unprejudiced information
- To conduct non-partisan and non-political activities

## **III. REVOCATION OF ACCREDITATION**

NEC may, at any time, revoke the accreditation of any organization to conduct voter and civic education, if in view of the NEC, the organization or its members:

- Fails to adhere to the laws of Liberia
- Fails to adhere to the lawful instructions, directions, order, or promulgation issued by the NEC
- Shows a bias in favor of any side in the electoral process
- Obstructs elections officials in the conduct of their official duties
- Makes derogatory statements, print or broadcast, against the Commission
- Disseminates information intended to misguide voters



Section 2.

**METHODOLOGY FOR  
VOTER EDUCATION  
EDUCATORS**

# ACTIVITIES:

## GUIDELINES FOR PLANNING PURPOSES

### I. TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

- **Face to face:** This type of activity involves a group of not over 20 participants and the purpose is to deliver information and to interact with the audience. Usually the educator will use a flip chart or cards to help deliver the content. These gatherings can take place in all sorts of locations and have proved to be very effective for voter and civic education efforts.
- **Community mobilization events:** The most effective events include groups of about 25-50 citizens in the audience, with respected individuals such as teachers, women, youth and students to act as a speakers on topics about democracy, civil liberties, civic responsibilities, etc.
- **Street theatre:** Drama group performances highlighting the benefits of all citizens working together, the voting process, citizens rights, etc.
- **Cultural performances and concerts:** Musical groups from tribes or schools, or highlighting indigenous or vernacular methods.
- **Big events:** These are big gatherings of 51 to over a hundred people. Usually, these are timed during sports events such as football matches, religious rallies, concerts, or events attended by celebrities. They are very effective in calling attention to a particular issue and have been often used for voter and civic education projects.
- **On-the-spot:** The Voter Educator may deliver information about a subject matter through a spontaneous meeting with a target individual/group. Sites might include: streets, markets, construction sites or any site where you have the chance to empower a citizen with useful knowledge.
- **Media activities:** Different types of media will be employed to stimulate the target groups about the need to be informed, mindful of their cultural preferences. Mass media activities may include:
  - Jingles
  - Questions and Answers
  - Roundtable conferences
  - Talkshows



## II. GUIDELINES FOR FACE-TO-FACE ACTIVITIES

### A. Planning the design of a face-to-face activity

- In designing a training session, you need to take the following into account:
  - Who is the audience? (characteristics and needs)
  - What is the purpose of the training?
  - What do I want them to leave with?
  - What training/experience related to the content do they already have?
  - How long will the training be?
  - What teaching materials/content will be most effective?
  - What examples and types of exercises would be most effective?

This manual contains a training module that could be helpful in providing guidance for face-to-face activities regarding the voter registration process.

### B. Sample of a training session structure

Below is a sample training intended to provide a framework to guide organizations and educators in planning the structure and timing of a face-to-face activity.

TIME	CONTENT
10.00-10.05	<b>Introduce yourself / Introduce NEC program</b> (thank them for being there/mention you will be back for other sessions)
10.05-10.10	<b>Explain purpose of the session</b>
10.10-11.00	<b>Content delivery</b>
11.00-11.30	<b>Activity/Exercise</b>
11.30	<b>Closing</b> (thank them for having been attentive and remind them you will visit again . Distribute any materials)

Your sessions will be more effective if you encourage participation. During your sessions try to empower the less powerful groups such as women, citizens with disabilities and young adults.

This is only a sample session. You might want to have an activity while delivering the content or to organize it differently.

Moreover, you might want to spend more or less time with your groups. In any case, it is not advisable to have an activity exceeding three hours because concentration levels of participants decrease and because it is difficult to keep an audience fully engaged for long periods of time.

### **C. Participatory Activities and Exercises**

- Examples of activities and exercises include: (The NEC will present a number of these exercises at the Training of Trainers sessions with CSOs)
  - Role Plays: Audience practices the Registration or the Voting process. Some members of the audience play the role of election officials and the rest play the applicants/voters.
  - Quizzes: Educator tests the knowledge acquired by the participants by asking open questions on the content of the activity. This can be organized by putting them into small groups and having a little competition or the educator can ask the questions to a wider audience.
  - Games: To test they understand voter eligibility and the voters identification verification means. You can do this by choosing two persons and giving each a card outlining who they are and what documents they bring in order to register. Each plays their character to the audience who in turn will decide whether or not the characters meet eligibility and verification criteria.

## **III. GUIDELINES FOR PERFORMANCE BASED ACTIVITIES**

The following are some guidelines for educational activities including street theater, jingles, songs.

Although these type of activities can be very creative, certain considerations need to be taken into account for maximizing their educational impact:

- Decide what messages to deliver and focus on those.
  - Choose the most important messages based on the information coming from the NEC
  - Assess the particular mood of the people, doubts, expectations, fears, misunderstandings
  - Build your songs or make-up scenarios
  - Test the effect of your performances
  - Adapt your activities to the time/events and society mood as we move forward in the electoral calendar
- When using humor, be careful not to use words that might be offensive to anybody or to any other group such as tribal, religious, disabled, women groups, etc.
- Make sure to include a theme of integration and inclusion of all citizens.
- If you plan to use the past as a reference point, use it wisely. Make sure the past is used to learn from and to move forward in a constructive way, always looking at the brighter future all Liberians will achieve by working together.

#### **IV. GUIDELINES FOR MEDIA ACTIVITIES**

Utilizing the media can be an effective way to deliver educational messages to a wide audience.

Here are some useful tips you might want to consider when using the radio or television:

- Whenever possible, know the questions you will be asked in advance. This is very commonly done as it ensures a very positive outcome of your intervention.
- Practice in advance the issues you want to share and prepare them in a concise and simple manner.
- If you participate in a program where callers call in to ask questions, be certain about the accuracy of your answer.
- Review the code of conduct included in this manual and always uphold the principles contained in it.

# **ELECTORAL MATERIALS: TYPES AND DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS**

## **I. PRINTED ELECTORAL MATERIALS FOR PUBLIC AWARENESS**

The NEC will produce the following type of electoral materials for the voter and civic education campaign:

- Voter Education Manual
- Flipcharts
- Banners
- Posters
- Brochures
- Flyers
- Stickers
- Calendars
- Bags

All electoral material produced by the NEC will be distributed free-of-charge to voter education trainers and to the public. All CSOs and any other organization will also make the material available to the public free-of-charge.

## **II. DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC AWARENESS MATERIALS**

The NEC will distribute awareness materials to the NEC County Offices as well as to the NGOs conducting voter and civic education activities. The following are some locations where these materials could be delivered:

- Voter education sessions
- Public gatherings and meetings
- NGO offices
- Markets and shops
- Restaurants / coffee shops
- Schools
- Health centers
- Governmental institutions
- Voter registration centers

## **MEETINGS & GATHERINGS:**

# GUIDELINES FOR PLANNING PURPOSES

## I. PLANNING GUIDELINES FOR YOUR MEETING SESSIONS

Prior to conducting your sessions you will need to plan for most visits. These are some suggestions on steps to follow:

- Identify the village you want to visit
- Identify who you want to meet (target group)
- Pay a visit to the town leader/chief
  - Introduce yourself
  - Explain purpose of visit
  - Explain objectives of the program
  - Ask about the characteristics of the village, the people, etc. This might give you some ideas as to how to tailor-make your sessions
  - Try to get the person's support in helping arrange a session
- Arrange day, time, place when you will meet
  - Choose a time that is generally convenient
  - Choose a location accessible for most people
  - Choose an adequate location (if it is the rainy season, make sure the place has a roof)
  - Choose a time when no other big events take place in the area
  - Choose a place that is as quiet as possible
- If you do not know anybody or if you plan a session in a bigger urban area, you should consider contacting a respected person such as a religious leader. Alternatively, you can place some posters or fliers announcing your upcoming session (include purpose, time and place)
- Prepare Agenda
- Plan your day so that you combine current sessions with the planning of future sessions

- Be efficient. If you plan your work well you should be able to conduct at least two sessions and plan for future ones

Note: Try to build a relationship with a contact person, either a village chief or a participant. This will make your work easier as you plan a next visit.

## **II. LOCATIONS OF YOUR SESSIONS**

In principle, any location where people gather is a good location to organize your activities. Moreover, there will be instances where your prior arrangements might not have worked and you will need to quickly decide where to conduct the session. Here are some ideas on locations from previous experience:

- Schools
- Mosques/Churches
- Health Centers
- Markets
- Community Centers
- Farms or fields
- NGO Centers
- Coffee shops
- Beach
- Door-to-door
- Use your imagination!

# TIPS ON ADULT LEARNING

## I. ADULT EDUCATION

Adults have extensive experience in life. They might not have academic knowledge on a particular subject but they have valuable experiences to share and a great deal to contribute.

Throughout their lives, they make decisions, organize gatherings and are involved with their communities. And this is the way adults learn, through being involved, through doing different things. Therefore, we should try to adapt our educational activities and to relate our materials to their experiences. As they are used to making decisions and to participate in their community participatory activities are usually welcome.

Given the high illiteracy rate in our country and, given that we need to reach everybody, words that everybody will understand should be used.

These are some tips on how adults' learning process is most effective:

- When they are actively involved
- When they know the purpose of the training and they are kept updated
- When they are interested and they see the usefulness of what they learn
- When they are given the opportunity to share experiences and insights
- In informal, comfortable, flexible and non-threatening settings
- When they themselves discover answers to questions instead of being told

# BASIC TRAINING SKILLS

## **I. ATTRIBUTES OF A GOOD TRAINER/EDUCATOR**

We all recognize a good trainer even if we ourselves have not had experience in training others. This is because we all have been involved as part of an audience and we all know whether the trainer was effective. The following are some attributes of an effective trainer:

- Knows the subject
- Believes in the subject
- Establishes a relationship with the audience
- Is responsive to the audience
- Is honest about what s/he knows and doesn't know
- Displays confidence
- Helps audience feel relaxed
- Shows enthusiasm
- Has sense of humor
- Prepares training
- Tailor-makes materials and examples to specific needs of the audience
- Reviews material before presenting
- Listens to feedback and improves performance
- Does not read from notes
- Is punctual

## **II. SKILLS OF A GOOD TRAINER/EDUCATOR**

Besides the attributes, trainers/educators need to acquire some skills through practice. These include:

- To have good presentation skills
- To stay in control of the session and stay relaxed
- To speak slowly and clearly



- To re-phrase when necessary
- To make eye contact with ALL participants
- To listen to what participants say and respond to it appropriately
- To try to listen to what is not being said, including body language, tone, facial expressions and respond appropriately
- To disallow personal feelings to hinder performance
- To be flexible and adapt to audience needs and situational circumstances

### **III. BASIC TIPS TO HANDLE “DIFFICULT” PARTICIPANTS**

As noted above, it is important for trainers/educators to display confidence and to stay in control of a session. The following are a few tips on how to handle the situation, especially in activities that involve direct discussion and active participation of the audience:

- When somebody interrupts...  
Let them finish ,or  
  
Ask them to hold their thought until you are finished
- When somebody volunteers to respond/ask too often...  
Is there anybody else who has not asked/volunteered yet?
- When somebody talks in small groups while you are presenting...  
Physically move towards them, or  
  
Ask them to share their thoughts with the group

### **IV. IF YOU DO NOT KNOW THE ANSWER TO ALL QUESTIONS ...**

Nobody knows the answers to all questions an audience can ask you. However, how you handle it will have an impact on how you are viewed as an educator.

The golden rule is to always be honest. Here are some options as to what you can say when faced with this situation:

- Sorry, I don't know the answer
- I am NOT certain, but I think... / From what I understand, I suppose...
- I don't have the answer but...
  - I could get back to you, or
  - Tell the person where to find the answer
- Ask somebody in the audience how they would respond to that question

# NEC-CSOs COORDINATION

## **I. PURPOSE**

Considering that there are a number of CSOs and NGOs working on educational programs with different target groups, NEC would like to coordinate efforts for the following reasons:

- To disseminate consistent messages
- To prevent duplication of efforts
- To effectively monitor the progress of the program and make the necessary adjustments

## **II. TRAINING OF TRAINERS**

The NEC will contribute to the capacity building of its NGO partners by providing training of trainers on voter and civic education, training skills as well as with field coordination skills.

The first round of training of trainers for CSOs will take place in March. This training will focus on Voter Registration. The training module on Voter Registration is enclosed in this manual. Moreover, promotional materials will be delivered to CSOs for their distribution.

## **III. COORDINATION IN THE FIELD**

To monitor the impact and to coordinate efforts, the NEC in partnership with CSOs, will establish a committee that will meet regularly to assess the progress in the field and to make any adjustments when necessary.

In addition, the NEC office at county level might be used to hold regular meetings with the different organizations in each given county. This will prevent duplication of efforts and will be a forum for exchanging information and experiences. In addition, it will allow for any adjustments to the outreach program. The Assistant Magistrate will be the contact person for voter and civic education at county level.

To facilitate coordination of the work by the CSOs the following tools will be employed:

- List of villages per county
- Composition of population per county, number of people per county belonging to which tribe, number of IDPs in the camps
- List of NGOs and trainers operating in the county
- Deployment plan for each trainer

A data base will be designed to keep track and to monitor the quantitative and qualitative data collected.

This data base will be operating in Monrovia. The NEC will distribute data collection forms to the counties through the Assistant Magistrate. Once completed by the CSOs educators, those forms will be sent to Monrovia for their entry in the data base. Updates on program progress will be sent back to the counties along with any other comments. Promotional materials will also be delivered through these means.

<b>IV. DATA BASE FORM</b>
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Please, see next page

**PUT THE PAGE ON THE COPY MARKED ED-ACTIVITY FORM**

# CONTACT DETAILS FOR SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS

## NEC CONTACT DETAILS

Please, feel free to contact the NEC for any information on the electoral process.

Address:

Tubman Blvd., Sinkor - P.O. Box 2044  
Monrovia, Liberia

Voter and Civic Education Department:

**Robert J. Darju**

Director

Mobile: 06 540 898

**Roseline Nagbe**

Voter Education Officer

Mobile: 06 537 885

## IFES CONTACT DETAILS

For any comments on this manual, or suggestions on how to improve it, please contact:

**Carmina Sanchis-Ruescas**

IFES Director of Programs

Office Address:

Randall Street, Power Tech Building  
Monrovia – Liberia

E-mails:

Csanchis-ruescas@ifes.org  
sanchisruescas@yahoo.com

Mobile:

06 565 664

Section 3.

**TRAINING MODULE ON  
VOTER EDUCATION:  
VOTER REGISTRATION**

## **ABOUT THIS TRAINING MODULE ON VOTER REGISTRATION**

This training manual contains a module on Voter Registration. This module has been designed with the final audience in mind: the voting population living in Liberia, taking into account the high illiteracy rate in the country. In addition, it also takes into account the different levels of educators' experience. To that end, the module is organized in the following way:

- Each page is divided in two sections. On the right hand side, you will find the information that should be passed on to citizens. On the left, you will find a sheet with notes and helpful suggestions in order to facilitate the understanding of the subject and tips on how to train it.
- This training module contains the relevant information on voter registration. It is intended to provide a framework for CSOs who will utilize the information contained in it. The CSOs should then turn the information into any type of activity e.g. street theater, jingles, songs, face-to-face seminars, etc.
- The training module is available in English. Educators conducting voter education can then work in the language of the target group. This will certainly make the educational experience more effective.
- This manual only illustrates a starting point. The work of the outreach training program will develop with the assistance of the feedback you bring following your training sessions in the field.
- Already at this early stage, your feedback on this manual is essential. The manual is relevant only if it meets the objectives of the program.

With your feedback, knowledge and commitment, this manual will grow into a solid material for the Civic/Voter education program and for similar programs in the future.



# **TRAINING MODULE ON VOTER EDUCATION:**

## **VOTER REGISTRATION**

# Notes for the Educators

## **Purpose of Training:**

The purpose is to prepare citizens for their participation in the electoral process leading to the October Elections

## **Goals of the Training:**

As a result of these educational activities, citizens should be able to:

- Better understand the importance of participating in the electoral process
- Create interest and courage to actively participate
- Understand the condition of registering in order to vote
- Know the registration procedures

## **Attitude to Foster:**

Voter education is intended to ensure that the conduct of citizens, political parties and candidates is appropriate to a peaceful election, acceptance of results, and tolerance of competition.

# **Voter Education - Registration**

## **VOTER REGISTRATION IN LIBERIA**

**25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL - 21<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2005**

# Notes for the Educators

## **Message to Communicate:**

During the registration process the applicant will be asked to provide information about himself/herself, such as: name, age, gender, place of residence.

This information will be recorded and will be published on the voters' list

## WHAT IS VOTER REGISTRATION?

Process in which eligible voters  
can register so that they can  
vote on Election Day

# Notes for the Educators

## **Message to Communicate:**

Registration is the condition for participating in the elections

Everybody needs to register even if he/she already registered for the elections of 1997

Registration cards from previous elections are not valid!

## WHY DO I NEED TO REGISTER?

You need to register because  
only citizens who are on the  
voters' list and who hold  
registration cards will be  
allowed to vote on Election Day

# Notes for the Educators

## **Attitude to Foster:**

These upcoming elections are different from 1997. Some reasons include:

- There is now official disarmament
- There will be free movement for everybody
- The Comprehensive Peace Agreement and the National Transitional Government of Liberia have created an environment of equality for all political parties
- No intimidation of voters
- Different electoral system
- There are three elections coming up which means that citizens will have a direct influence in the outcome for each one of them



# WHY DO I NEED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS?

- To have a say in the future of Liberia
- To have a voice in deciding who should represent you in the government
- To hold government officials accountable
- With your vote you can judge the performance of your leaders and decide whether or not to vote for them in future elections
- To bring change in order to improve your life
- To have people in government who are responsible for your needs making decisions about your future
- To take responsibility for your own life and the life of your children by participating in public affairs

# Notes for the Educators

**Purpose:**

To inform citizens about the objective of their participation. It is to elect their representatives.

**Message to Communicate:**

Citizens will cast one ballot for each of these elections.

# WHAT ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 11, 2005?

There will be three elections  
held on October 11, 2005:

1. Elections to the office of President  
and Vice President  
(based on country level)
2. Elections for the Senate  
(based on county level)
  - 2 Senators will be elected from  
each county
3. Elections for the House of  
Representatives  
(based on district level)
  - 64 Members of the House will be  
elected from each electoral  
district

# Notes for the Educators

## **Message to Communicate:**

Only those who are 18 years or above on the last day of registration period will be able to vote.

Citizens who become 18 years of age after registration period will not be able to vote.

The NEC will announce the registration extension period for returning refugees and will provide guidelines as to the cut off date to be 18 years of age.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

All Liberian citizens who are 18  
years of age and above on the  
last day of registration period,  
21<sup>st</sup> of May 2005

# Notes for the Educators

## **Message to Communicate:**

Any document that is not official like the ones mentioned will not be accepted.

Any type of ID with a photograph and name of the applicant is not valid.

## WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO REGISTER?

You need to be able to prove that you are eligible to vote. Any of the following documents are acceptable:

1. Valid Liberian passport
2. An official birth certificate accompanied by an identity document containing the name and your photo
3. A certificate of renunciation of a second nationality (issued by an authorized Liberian court or judge), accompanied by an identity document containing the name and the photo of the applicant, which must match the name on the certificate

# Notes for the Educators

## **Attitude to Foster:**

Most Liberians want these elections to be free and fair. Most Liberians want a transparent process. It is up to the citizens to ensure that it is an acceptable process to all.

## **Message to Communicate:**

Transparency is a result of openness and honesty. Honesty begins with you!



## WHAT IF I DO NOT HAVE ANY OFFICIAL DOCUMENT?

If you do not have any official document, you can still register. These are the two ways:

1. Bring two registered witnesses with you to the registration center. You will register as a voter and the witnesses will sign a sworn statement testifying to your identity prepared for them.
2. Bring a traditional leader with you who can testify that you are an eligible Liberian citizen of 18 years of age or over by the last day of registration.

# Notes for the Educators

## **Messages to Communicate:**

Citizens need to go in person. An applicant cannot send anybody on his/her behalf.

A citizen can only register in one registration center. In order to prevent somebody from registering more than once, very strong ink that will not wash away will be used.

Voter IDs from previous elections are not valid. You need to register again and obtain a new card for these upcoming elections.

\*A photo ID will be given to all eligible voters free of charge!

## **Background Information:**

Two photos will be taken of each registered person. One will remain in the registry and the other one will be placed on the registration ID card.

## **Attitude to Foster:**

Illiterate people should be encouraged to go out and register. They do not need to sign. A thumbprint mark is just as valid.

\*\*It is known that many illiterate women might be reluctant to participate. We need to build their confidence and empower them with the necessary information. Encourage women to register and to vote!

## HOW DO I REGISTER?

You will need to go to the registration center

1. A registration clerk will check for ink marking on your thumb.
2. The clerk will check your eligibility for registration and will write down your details.
3. The registrar will check the content of the form with you. You will then sign or mark the form by applying the right hand thumbprint in the signature space.
4. A photographer will take two photos of you and will laminate a registration ID card. Your finger will be inked.
5. You will be given your voter registration card with your photo on it. You will need to bring this card with you on Election Day.

# Notes for the Educators

## **Message to Communicate:**

You will need to vote where you register

If you have changed your place of residence before the end of registration period, please contact the National Elections Commission's County office.

Besides registration officials, observers including representatives from political parties, NGOs, media and others will monitor the registration process.

## WHERE DO I NEED TO GO TO REGISTER?

Registration will take place all over Liberia.

There will be 1,500 registration locations distributed in the 15 counties.

The NEC officials in your county will announce the exact locations nearest to you.

# Notes for the Educators

## **Message to Communicate:**

Registration period will last for four weeks. After that time, the citizens will not be able to register.

Exceptions will apply to returning refugees for whom the registration period will be extended

Encourage participants to remember the dates!!!

## WHEN CAN I REGISTER?

- Registration Period : 25<sup>th</sup> April to 21<sup>st</sup> May
- Registration Centers will be open from 07.30 am until 4.30 pm from Monday to Saturday through the period of the exercise

# Notes for the Educators

## **Message to Communicate:**

IDPs will need to vote in the county for which they have registered unless the NEC issues different guidelines in the future.



**IF I AM AN IDP,  
WHERE DO I REGISTER?**

You will be able to register at the camp where you live.

You will have the choice to register for your county of origin or for the county where you currently reside.

# Notes for the Educators

**\*\*please ensure all citizens get this part of the training**

## **Purpose:**

To empower and encourage citizens with disabilities to exercise their right to vote according to their **own** convictions.

To sensitize the general public on the rights of citizens with disabilities.

## **Messages to Communicate:**

1. They have a legal right to vote
2. Citizens with disability should be a part of major decision making processes that could change their lives for the better
3. Citizens with disabilities will be given preference on the registration line, in accordance with the law

## **Background Information:**

One broad barrier faced by people with disabilities results from the ways most people misunderstand disability. Many people automatically respond with pity and an impulse to care for those they consider "weak" and "helpless". They assume people with disabilities cannot take care of themselves, or earn a living. They consistently underestimate people with disabilities and deprive them of their dignity and their potential. This mistaken understanding of disability is often called the **"charity model of disability"** because it assumes that what people with disabilities need is charity or benevolent caretaking. Charity can have a positive effect in some contexts, but in regard to disability, a charity approach is generally negative because it can disempower and limit people with disabilities.

The **"medical model of disability"** considers disability to be a health problem and treat people with disabilities as "sick" people who need to be "fixed". The danger of this misunderstanding is that it emphasizes "fixing disabilities" rather than fixing society by removing barriers and changing attitudes.

The charity model and the medical model isolate people with disabilities in hospitals, institutions, and their homes rather than integrating them into society. Such attitudes do nothing to increase opportunities to achieve social and economic independence.

Today the prevailing approach to disability advocacy worldwide - including the approach taken by Disability Organizations in Liberia - promotes a **"social model"** for understanding disability and actively discourages regarding people with disabilities as needing charity (the charity model of disability) or a cure (the medical model). The social model affirms that people with disabilities are full members of society who have important contributions to make to their families and communities. What prevents them from achieving their potential is not their disabilities but the unhealthy and disempowering misunderstanding of society. Rather than fixing people with disabilities to fit better into society, the social model focuses on changing society to eliminate limitations imposed by the society.

## **I AM DISABLED, CAN I REGISTER?**

As a citizen of Liberia, you have the same constitutional rights as other citizens. It is therefore your right to participate in the electoral process.

# Notes for the Educators

## Message to Communicate:

The registration officials may request an investigation or additional information to satisfy as to the applicants' eligibility. Within the process, the official may ask for witnesses or request the production of any document.

Explain to participants that the following constitute an offence in connection with the registration of voters, which can, if convicted, result in fines and/or imprisonment:

- Printing, distributing or altering Voter's Card;
- For a person to give false information during registration. This applies to both the applicant for registration and/or any person giving information about an applicant for registration;
- Impersonating another person when applying to register to vote; (*pretending you are someone else when registering*) or
- Registering or attempting to register more than once.

## Background Information:

Registration will not be allowed for those:

- who have been judicially declared to be incompetent or of unsound mind, or
- who have been barred from voting as a result of his/her conviction and imprisonment for an infamous crime which disenfranchised him/her as a voter and has not been restored to full citizenship.

\*The Ministries of Health and Justice will make available the lists of those who cannot register (see above) to the registrations centers

## Attitude to Foster:

The main objective of this electoral process is to register as many eligible voters as possible.

If somebody is rejected and that person believes he/she is eligible then the person should file an appeal

## WHAT HAPPENS IF MY REGISTRATION APPLICATION IS REJECTED?

You may not be eligible to register due to the following reasons:

1. Unable to prove you are a Liberian citizen
2. Unable to prove you will be at least 18 years old on the date established by the NEC
3. You have registered before
4. Your name exists on the Ministry of Justice and/or Ministry of Health list of ineligible citizens
5. You presented someone else's ID document

# Notes for the Educators

## **Message to Communicate:**

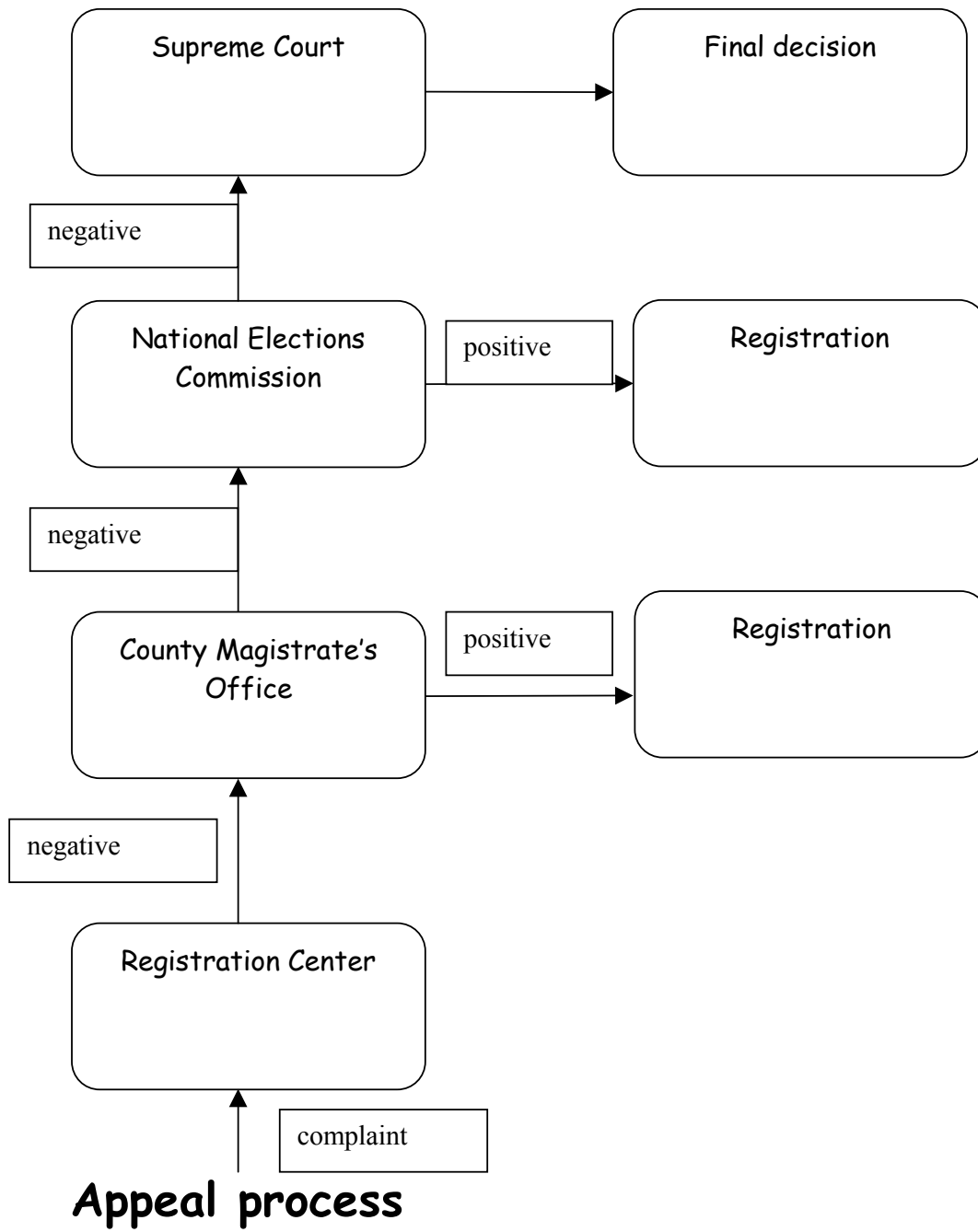
There are certain appeals processes citizens can follow

The NEC will issue guidelines for appeal in due course

## **Attitude to Foster:**

These mechanisms are there to protect citizens so that power is not vested in one person who, in some cases, might not be neutral.

# WHAT IF I BELIEVE I AM ELIGIBLE?



# Notes for the Educators

## **Message to Communicate**

It is important for citizens to go back to the centers where they registered to check that their information is correct.

This challenges period allows voters to make any complaint or to make any corrections on their information.

If you know somebody is acting to damage this process, you need to report it at the registration center during the challenges period.

## **Attitude to Foster:**

It is everybody's responsibility to ensure that these elections are carried out freely and honestly so that everybody will be satisfied with results.



## **HOW CAN I CHECK MY INFORMATION IS ACCURATE?**

During Exhibition and Challenges Period from June 27<sup>th</sup> - July 1<sup>st</sup> the preliminary voters' list will be exhibited.

You will be given the opportunity to ensure that your name is included on the list, your personal information is correct, and to lodge challenges against it, if necessary.

If you find that some persons you recognize are not acting in accordance with the law, inform NEC officials!!!

# Notes for the Educators

**Purpose:**

Please stress that the person will vote in the same place as he/she registered.

The person will only appear on the registration roll of that specific center.

**Messages to communicate:**

The voter will need to bring with him/her the voter registration card.

If this card is lost please go to the NEC County office.

## WHERE WILL I VOTE ON ELECTION DAY?

You will vote in the same place  
you registered because you  
were only registered as a voter  
at that specific location.

# Notes for the Educators

**Purpose:**

To show transparency of the process.

\*The calendar reflects the main events in the electoral process.

**Messages to communicate:**

The NEC may make adjustments to the dates on the elections calendar.

## **WHAT IS THE ELECTIONS CALENDAR?**

<b>25 April - 21 May</b>	<b>VOTER REGISTRATION</b>
<b>27 June - 1 July</b>	<b>EXHIBITION</b>
<b>15 July</b>	<b>PUBLICATION OF ELECTORAL DISTRICTS</b>
<b>30 August</b>	<b>PUBLICATION OF OFFICIAL FINAL LIST OF CANDIDATES</b>
<b>1 September</b>	<b>POLITICAL CAMPAIGN BEGINS</b>
<b>30 September</b>	<b>LAST DAY FOR LIST OF POLLING CENTRES TO BE PUBLISHED</b>
<b>10 October</b>	<b>CAMPAIGN PERIOD ENDS (24 HOURS BEFORE ELECTION DAY)</b>
<b>11 October</b>	<b>ELECTION DAY</b>
<b>No later than 26 October</b>	<b>ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS</b>

# Notes for the Educators

**Purpose:**

To encourage citizens to pay attention to the different events that will be announced throughout the process.

**Messages to communicate:**

Please, let participants know the contact details of the Magistrate's office in your county.

Start participating from now!

## WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

The NEC has launched a voter education campaign throughout Liberia

You can contact your NEC Magistrate's County Office or the NEC main office in Monrovia

Be attentive towards the media

# **FINAL REPORT ON PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN OF VOTERS' REGISTRATION**

**BY THE CRUSADERS FOR PEACE  
Monrovia, Liberia**

## **BACKGROUND**

On April 18, 2005, the Crusaders for Peace in consultation with the National Elections Commission of Liberia (NEC) signed a contract agreement with the International Foundation for Electoral Services (IFES) for the Crusaders for Peace to plan and implement a public awareness campaign on Voters Registration. The project was implemented from April 18 to 21 May 2005 in the Liberian counties of Bong, Margibi and Montserrado. The goal of the project was to facilitate an information, education and awareness strategy that would help local communities, leaders and families and individual Liberians in the targeted communities appreciate the need for going to voters' registration centers and registering to vote in the ensuing Liberian elections slated for October 2005.

## **PROJECT SUMMARY:**

The Voters' Registration project aimed to educate, encourage and inform every Liberians about the importance of registering as a potential voter for the planned October 2005 elections. The Crusaders for Peace would conduct sensitization and awareness sessions in Montserrado, Bong and Margibi Counties for two months starting April 2005. These sessions will provide information, education and motivation regarding the problems and issues identified under problem statement section of this document.

## **OVERALL PROJECT OBJECTIVE:**

The overall objective of the project was to encourage the massive participation of eligible Liberians in the 2005 electoral process in the targeted communities/counties by encouraging them to register as a potential voter.

## **The Specific objectives were:**

- To disseminate specific information regarding ***"Who," "where," "When," "How," and "Why,"*** to residents of the three counties of Bong Margibi and Montserrado on the 2005 voters' registration process.
- To stress the advantages of registering as a voter and the disadvantages of not registering as a voter.



- To encourage and motivate all eligible Liberians in the three counties to register as a voter.

Following the signing of the Project Agreement, the Crusaders for Peace undertook the following activities in preparation for the implementation of the project:

- Conducted one-day interpersonal communication training in each of the three counties for a total of 345 county level mobilizers and animators. Other topics discussed during the training session were planning and implementation of megaphone rallies, and the voters' registration process. The primary objective of the orientation was to ensure the uniformity and consistency of message dissemination and positioning.
- On April 18, a team of fifteen members was dispatched to each of the three counties to implement the Voters' Registration Awareness Campaign. At the county level, the teams linked up with the trained county level mobilizers/animators.
- Also on April 18, 2005, the Crusaders for Peace, the National Elections Commission (NEC) the Country Director of the International Foundation for Electoral Services (IFES) and an IFES Guest from Washington, DC participated in the launch of the Community Outreach Voters' Registration Campaign. The launch took place in Monrovia and was attended by both the print and electronic media. Kings FM, Ducor Broadcasting and Crystal FM all did live broadcasts of the launch.

## **PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY:**

Four major strategies were used to implement the project. The strategies are:

- **Advocacy** – This strategy focused on networking with strategic partners and allies such as religious groups, marketing associations, transport union, teachers and county officials. Through briefing sessions, these groups were given information on the voters' registration process and the need to vote and encouraged to pass on and motivate their respective constituencies to register for the ensuing 2005 elections.
- **Special Events and Interpersonal Channels** - The Crusaders for Peace identified and utilized every available channels including individuals, sporting activities, special events, community dialogue in targeted areas to encourage the participation and involvement of individuals and groups already in the targeted areas. During these activities, fliers, posters and T-shirts provided by NEC and IFES were displayed and distributed. Other awareness and sensitization activities undertaken included radio spot announcement on four

radio stations: DC 101, Radio Veritas, Kings FM, ELBC, Crystal FM, Power FM and the Liberia Broadcasting System.

- **Community Engagement & Dialogue**– This strategy fostered dialogue and discussions with communities. It created the opportunity for dissemination of information on the need to register to vote and the registration process. A total 13\* meetings took place in the three counties. This strategy also used sports, cultural dance and performances, testimonials, etc. to attract participants to various activities.

*National Election Commission says*

*Register now vote in October*

*For what...Register to vote 2005 Elections*

*What is voter's Registration?*

*It is the time when Liberians*

*Who are 18 years old and above can put their name down in the voting book from Monday to Saturday,*

*7:30 am to 4:30 pm, April 25 to May 21, 2005*

*Why is it important to register?*

*It is the time when Liberians who are 18 year old and above*

*Who do not put their names down is the voting book from Monday to Saturday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm, April*

*25 to May 21, 2005*

*Can not vote ...no they can not vote on election's day. That will be a sad story*

*Oh..yes oh...yes Oyes.....Oyes.....*

#### **Back to Chorus**

*Who can register?*

*Liberian people, man and woman, disable people, returnees and 18 years above can put their names down in the voting book Monday to Saturday, April 25 to May 21, 2005*

*We want to say many thanks to IFES and USAID for their support.*

*Back to Chorus*

*Lyric of voter's registration jingle produced by the Crusaders for Peace*

## **KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED TO ACHIEVE PROJECT GOAL**

1. Produced and broadcast two-three-minutes jingles. One jingle focused on returnees and the other promoting voters' registration.
  2. Conducted door-to-door mobilization and message dissemination with house marking (LCP/VR)
  3. Conducted talking mobilization and megaphone rallies to disseminate messages and create awareness about voter's registration.
- *Note: Sixteen (16) meetings were planned but 13 held due to huge population in some areas which demanded more time and created funding problem.*

4. Distributed Voters registration posters and banners in the counties. These educational materials were provided by the National Elections Commission and the International Foundation for Electoral services.
5. Total number of persons talked to is 376,037 in the three counties with voter' registration messages. (See breakdown attached)

#### **COUNTIES AND COMMUNITIES VISITED:**

During the duration of the project, the Crusaders for Peace visited and conducted animation in the following communities:

Bong county: 8 Districts and 89,387 homes

MarGibi County: 4 districts and 75,401 homes.

Montserrado County: 4 Districts and 211, 249 homes.

#### **GENERAL OBSERVATION:**

Initially, the level of enthusiasm to the voter's registration campaign was lukewarm. There was the generally held perception that there was no need to register because the elections would not be free and fair and that it rural people did not matter in the process. "Why should I register to vote", questioned an elderly lady in Firestone. "You people already know who will be the President" she accused. Another lady remarked, "What can my small one vote do?"

These and many other valid questions and concerns were posed by many of those we met during the implementation of the project. Our clarification that this year's elections are being managed not only by Liberians, but also by the United Nations and other international organizations such as the International Foundation for Electoral Services went a long way to allay fears and restore confidence. "For true, these people will not be here and let some people cheat during this election," supported a man believed to be his late sixties. This candid exchange of information and concerns helped us to comb the many communities using some of these concerns to position our messages.

Quite honestly, considering the long years of distrust with electioneering in Liberia; coupled with the war situation, we needed more time to educate more clearly on the process. Establishing strong relationships and building confidence were very critical to the awareness process.

There was the need for more promotional materials. Many people found the materials attractive. Being in possession of the materials was a sign of ownership and participation.

Those who could not read used the materials to have their children or friends read them while they listen and generated discussions.

Regrettably, the Voter's Registration danceable jingle was not shared with community radio stations in the communities we worked. Music being an art and a way of life for Liberians, the use of the jingle would have added to the convergence of interventions supporting the awareness campaign.

### **Recommendation**

Definitely, more time and more educational materials would be needed for future voter's registration awareness campaign.

## ANNEX

### Report on Voters Registration Sensitization/Bong County

No.	Area Visited	Home Visited	#. Of eligible person talk to
<b>A.</b>	<b>Jorquilleh District:</b>		
1.	Ganta Parking	300	4,000
2.	Gbarnga Broad Street	1,500	6,050
3.	Sugar Hill	200	3,500
4.	Far East	400	3,000
5.	Gboveh Hill	150	1,300
6.	Mum Valley	130	1,000
7.	Massaquoi Community	25	100
8.	Bawor Quarter	140	1,200
9.	Lofa Parking	75	800
10.	Iron Gate	40	200
11.	Melekie Town	263	2,000
12.	Kollietawolia	65	375
13.	Gboata	115	550
14.	Kpaiyeh	83	400
15.	Kpaeyah	35	215
16.	Noaye	10	65
17.	Jinnipleta	23	95
18.	Weasue	200	345
19.	Gbarmu	33	195
20.	Demeta	21	85
21.	Chief Compound	221	455
22.	Jorgbemuje	210	1,805
23.	Millionaire Quarter	135	1,306
24.	<i>Gbenequelleh</i>	79	499
25.	<i>Samey</i>	62	393
26.	<i>Gbaoto</i>	20	97
27.	<i>Banow Quarter</i>	87	476
28.	<i>Lelekpaiyeh</i>	94	668
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>31,174</b>
<b>B.</b>	<b>Suakoko District:</b>		
29.	Phebe	303	4,425
30.	S.K.T.	205	3,828
31.	Suakoko	216	3,965
32.	Gbartala	414	5,239
33.	Beletani	79	589
34.	Sinyea	12	41
35.	Balamah	32	249
36.	Dulumae	39	286
37.	Kolita	78	586
38.	<i>Gbon Konimah</i>	63	357

39.	<i>Suakoko Town</i>	88	611
40.	<i>Donfah</i>	40	197
41.	<i>Kankelan</i>	17	98
42.	<i>Pelelei</i>	22	101
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>20,572</b>
<b>C.</b>	<b>Salala District:</b>		
28.	Totota	832	4,615
29.	Gbonduor	62	362
30.	Kandakai	17	138
31.	Zeazue	98	802
32.	Konlila	78	586
33.	Donsah	40	163
34.	<i>Salala Township</i>	658	3,916
35.	<i>Kpakoloya</i>	56	289
36.	<i>Tumutu Camp</i>	75	468
37.	<i>Pope Farm</i>	2	8
38.	<i>Maimu 1 &amp; 2</i>	832	4,616
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>15,963</b>
<b>D.</b>	<b>Zota District:</b>		
39.	Gbarlatuah	89	673
40.	Bellefana	79	589
41.	<i>Yowee</i>	30	118
42.	<i>Naama</i>	81	598
43.	<i>Kollie-ta</i>	26	119
44.	<i>Gbalatuah City</i>	89	613
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,710</b>
<b>E.</b>	<b>PANTA-KPAAI DISTRICT:</b>		
45.	<i>Foequelleh</i>	345	1,365
46.	<i>Bellemue</i>	41	189
47.	<i>Zowienta</i>	256	1,879
48.	<i>Baila</i>	98	876
49.	<i>Sarwolor</i>	20	108
50.	<i>Palala</i>	542	2,972
51.	<i>Tansai</i>	48	327
52.	<i>Lehle</i>	41	186
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>7,902</b>
<b>F.</b>	<b>KOKOYAH DISTRICT:</b>		
53.	<i>Timaya</i>	67	369
54.	<i>Forlobilah</i>	51	264
55.	<i>Blameyei</i>	16	118
56.	<i>Behla</i>	17	121
57.	<i>Duwata</i>	39	225
58.	<i>Bellah</i>	21	127
59.	Bonrumu Clan:		

60.	<i>Kilibaye</i>	30	147
61.	<i>Kpetomah</i>	25	100
		<b>Subtotal</b>	1,471
<b>G.</b>	<b><i>SANOYEA DISTRICT:</i></b>		
62.	<i>Sanoyea</i>	50	225
63.	Walahuan Clan:		
64.	<i>Gboghot</i>	40	350
65.	Manequelleh Clan:		
66.	<i>Gbonota</i>	40	198
67.	<i>Gahn</i>	50	150
68.	Bonkamu Clan:		
69.	<i>Volomeni</i>	50	250
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,173</b>
<b>H.</b>	<b><i>FAUMA DISTRICT:</i></b>		
	<i>Bong Mines Road:</i>		
70.	Sackie Gbomah Town	20	52
71.	Sherman Farm	10	896
72.	Gwepolosue Town	90	437
73.	Kollie Kaine Town	55	256
74.	Vayeamah Town	60	302
75.	Compound	350	1,456
76.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sherman Farm	35	99
77.	Bong Mines	300	638
78.	Coopers Farm	6	17
79.	Gailila	5	25
80.	Woliala	35	110
81.	Sherman Town	56	115
82.	Richard Town	95	75
83.	Dennis Farm	12	51
84.	Perkins Town	33	100
85.	Sangba Cole Town	22	75
86.	Brown Town	4	30
87.	Mawah	105	836
88.	Degei 1	150	942
89.	Degei 2	152	910
90.	Namota	50	556
91.	Kilamanh	49	444
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>8,422</b>

### Sensitization Report on Voters Registration /Margibi County

No.	Area Visited	Home Visited	#. Of eligible person talk to
A.	<b>Kakata District:</b>		
1.	Via Town	30	150
2.	Bousay Quarter	35	138
3.	Ground Quarter	50	200
4.	Moses Brown Quarter	20	101
5.	Sugar Hill	25	158
6.	John Tamba Quarter	43	153
7.	Owens Town	45	130
8.	14 <sup>th</sup> Road Community	40	225
9.	Market Road (Ground)	35	203
10.	B.W.I Campus	23	78
11.	Police Station Road	10	81
12.	Kakata Main Street	75	315
13.	Mandingo Quarter	18	90
14.	LAMCO Town	15	76
15.	Gbandi Quarter	10	97
16.	Bassa Community	25	59
17.	Morris Farm	46	186
18.	Hortin Farm (IDPs Camp)	94	376
19.	Stewart Farm	16	66
20.	Genie Town Market & Town	336	1,346
21.	Kakata-14 Road Community	256	898
22.	14 Road (East)	26	224
23.	Kakata Market	-0-	489
24.	Kakata main Road	-0-	625
25.	Vai Town	68	318
26.	Mandingo Quarter	103	525
27.	Zeewohr Town	67	335
28.	Zeewohr Village	7	32
29.	Frank-Guah	15	79
30.	Kema Town	5	31
31.	Koko Town	9	32
32.	Laway Town	6	30
33.	Somah Town	13	54
34.	Bah Johnson Town	16	80
35.	Borla	15	75
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>8,055</b>
	<b>Cornneh IDPs</b>		
17.	Block –A	200	315
18.	Block –B	33	199
19.	Block –C	40	201
20.	Block –D	22	110
21.	Block –E	20	90
B.	<b>Firestone Distric:</b>		



22.	26 Gate	150	600
23.	Division 27	133	530
24.	Division 28	140	560
25.	Division 29(Camp-2)	222	887
26.	Division 30	75	299
27.	Division 37	105	422
28.	Division 38	103	414
29.	Division 40 (Camp-3)	75	300
30.	Division 43	78	315
31.	Division 45 (Harbel)	230	923
32.	Cotton Tree	100	401
33.	Unification Town	67	268
34.	Division 20	30	386
35.	Division 11 (Nusery Camp)	49	539
36.	Division 10	80	854
37.	Division 6	50	600
38.	Division 24	140	789
39.	Division 23	28	396
40.	Division 40-Old Camp	58	209
41.	Division 37	275	1,173
42.	Division 40-Camps	50	356
43.	Division 1-Camp A	36	220
44.	Division 1-Camp B	42	210
45.	Division 15	8	63
46.	Division 9	114	675
47.	Division 9 (New Camp)	54	270
48.	Division 13	85	243
49.	Division 16 (Long Camp)	25	115
50.	Division 16 (Recess Camp)	92	460
51.	Division 16 (Mambo Camp)	26	130
52.	Division 12 (Marry Camp)	24	72
53.	Division 14 (Keep it Camp)	12	60
54.	Division 11-Old Camp	37	252
55.	Division 28 (New Camp)	67	615
56.	Division 34	67	335
57.	Division 35	30	150
58.	Division 14 (Camp 5)	16	112
59.	Division 19	18	119
60.	Division 18	11	130
61.	Division 17	24	116
62.	Division 2	26	172
63.	Division 20	30	386
64.	Division 11 (Nusery Camp)	49	539
65.	Division 10	80	854
66.	Division 6	50	600
67.	Division 24	140	789
68.	Division 23	28	396
69.	Division 40-Old Camp	58	209
70.	Division 37	275	1,173

71.	Division 40-Camps	50	356
72.	Division 1-Camp A	36	220
73.	Division 1-Camp B	42	210
74.	Division 15	8	63
75.	Division 9	114	675
76.	Division 9 (New Camp)	54	270
77.	Division 13	85	243
78.	Division 16 (Long Camp)	25	115
79.	Division 16 (Recess Camp)	92	460
80.	Division 16 (Mambo Camp)	26	130
81.	Division 12 (Marry Camp)	24	72
82.	Division 14 (Keep it Camp)	12	60
83.	Division 11-Old Camp	37	252
84.	Division 28 (New Camp)	67	615
85.	Division 34	67	335
86.	Division 35	30	150
87.	Division 14 (Camp 5)	16	112
88.	Division 19	18	119
89.	Division 18	11	130
90.	Division 17	24	116
91.	Division 2	26	172
92.	Duside Village (Firestone)	10	71
93.	Kaffa Town	7	39
94.	15-Gate	-0-	99
95.	15-Gate Community	24	193
96.	Harbel Camp 3	126	1,260
97.	Harbel Camp 2	152	1,472
		<b>Subtotal</b>	29,610
<b>C.</b>	<b>Mamba Kaba District:</b>		
98.	Morris Farm	46	186
99.	Germany	21	84
100.	Hortin Farm (IDPs Camp)	94	376
101.	Stewart Farm	16	66
102.	Genie Town Market & Town	336	1,346
103.	Armed bush Curve (Market Ground)	-0-	1,303
104.	Marshall City	168	368
105.	Fanti Town	427	2,225
106.	Sundaygar Town	9	32
107.	Garbay Town	28	69
108.	Kpahkporcon Town	23	225
109.	Floko Town	33	194
110.	Henry Town	26	130
111.	Kpan Town	30	156
112.	Gbono's Town	21	162
113.	Gaylala	702	2,828
114.	Konokolleh	106	1,574
115.	Gba Town	430	1,888
116.	Compound Market	-0-	1,297

117.	Jonnnny Ba Town	13	65
118.	David Garley Farm	12	63
119.	ED Town	35	210
120.	Peters Town	186	1,402
121.	Dolo's Town	517	3,011
122.	Bright Farm	57	229
123.	R.I.A	21	618
124.	Snafu Dock	10	62
125.	Gardners Town	7	17
126.	Josiah Town	6	26
127.	Tarrs Town	9	45
128.	Central Charlesville	54	230
129.	Careysburg Market	-0-	257
130.	Benthol Administrative Building	-0-	118
131.	Kissi Camp	11	36
132.	Kpelle Town	26	117
133.	Jackson Farm	150	750
134.	Philips Farm	66	264
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>22,029</b>
<b>D.</b>	<b>Gibi District:</b>		
130.	Air Town	21	104
131.	Yahmozan Left	97	500
132.	German Camp Community	207	1,510
133.	Sayou Town	75	500
134.	Kollie Victoria Town	57	378
135.	Plumu	60	405
136.	Sinkiah Town	92	800
137.	Woun Market	-0-	2,400
138.	Payee	62	350
139.	Yan-kollie	104	776
140.	Manigbolor	125	1,318
141.	Weala Community	162	2,601
142.	SRC (camp 2)	110	910

143.	SRC (camp 1)	125	1,430
144.	SRC (camp 5)	112	910
145.	Ben Garnett Town	120	815
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>15,707</b>

**c. Sensitization Report on Voters Registration /Montserrado County**

No.	Areas Visited	Houses Visited	# of Eligible Person Talk to
<b>A</b>	<b>CENTRAL MONROVIA DISTRICT: NORTH &amp; SOUTH</b>		
1.	<b><u>Jorketa Community</u></b>		
2.	Plumkor	101	405
3.	Jorketa Market	24	99
4.	Audience	12	50
5.	1 <sup>st</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> Streets, Sinkor	148	595
6.	<i>Mamba Point</i>	60	300
7.	<i>Water Side</i>	207	828
8.	<i>Johnson Street</i>	75	300
9.	<i>Gurley Street</i>	37	150
10.	<i>Front Street</i>	60	300
11.	<i>Rally Town Market</i>	92	368
12.	<i>Broad Street</i>	600	2400
13.	<i>Freeport</i>	62	350
14.	<i>Ashmun Street</i>	104	416
15.	<i>Clara Town</i>	125	500
16.	<i>Sayon Town</i>	62	250
17.	<i>Battery Factory</i>	60	300
18.	<i>New Georgia Estate</i>	125	500
19.	<i>Grass Field</i>	125	500
20.	<i>Garnerville Supermarket</i>	120	450
21.	<i>Somalia Drive</i>	126	550
22.	<i>Barnersville</i>	247	991
23.	<i>Maryland Center</i>	120	450
24.	<i>Dry Rice Market</i>	250	1,000
25.	<i>Samukai Town</i>	238	952
26.	<i>Caldwell</i>	206	826
27.	<i>Jallah Town</i>	112	450
28.	<i>Saye Town</i>	87	350
29.	<i>Bassa Community</i>	26	504
30.	<i>Budget Bureau</i>	78	315
31.	<i>Capitol By Pass</i>	250	1,000
32.	<i>Police Barrett</i>	104	418
33.	<i>UL Campus</i>	88	352
34.	<i>Duala</i>	1337	5349

35.	<i>New Kru Town</i>	983	3934
36.	<i>West Point</i>	655	2621
37.	<i>Vai Town</i>	140	701
38.	<i>Fiama Community</i>	130	654
39.	New Mataldi	161	808
40.	Russell Avenue	37	150
41.	Chesseman Avenue	104	419
42.	Audience	77	310
43.	<b><u>Mataldi Community</u></b>		
44.	Mataldi Estate/Surrounding	154	616
45.	JFK	22	89
46.	Airfield Shorcut	21	108
47.	Wrotto Town	139	557
48.	Airfield Market	12	48
49.	<b><u>Congo Town Community</u></b>		
50.	Congo Town	45	182
51.	S. T. Cooper Road	19	76
52.	SKD Boulevard	36	145
53.	Congo Town Main Road	26	105
54.	<b><u>Old Road Community</u></b>		
55.	Gaye Town	65	263
56.	Symthe Road	63	315
57.	Cabral Estate/ Surrounding areas	130	785
58.	Chugbor	110	443
59.	Old Road Central Market	30	123
60.	<b><u>Lakpasee Community</u></b>		
61.	Airfield	149	599
62.	Wrotto Town	139	557
63.	Old Mataldi	250	1,000
64.	Market/Audience	17	68
65.	<b><u>Paynesville Community/Surrounding</u></b>		
66.	Paynesville Town Hall Community	32	130
67.	S. T. Cooper Road	10	43
68.	SKD Boulevard	21	84
69.	GSA Road	14	59
70.	A. B. Tolbert	12	48
71.	<b><u>ELWA Community</u></b>		
72.	Around the Hospital	117	468
73.	Rehab Community	51	204
74.	Kendaja/ELWA Market	49	199
75.	Duport Road Community	151	604
76.	Duport Road Junction	47	190
77.	Duport Road Market	97	390
78.	Paynesville Joe Bar	83	415
79.	Capitol Bye-Pass	41	307
80.	UN Drive	54	388
81.	Bussy Quarter/Audience	-0-	809
82.	West Point Megaphone rally	-0-	14,890
83.	Clara Town Megaphone rally	-0-	7,736

84.	New Kru Town Megaphone rally	-0-	10,460
85.	Slipway Megaphone rally	-0-	5,944
86.	<b>Sinkor:</b>		
87.	Old Road Megaphone rally	-0-	9,090
88.	Russel Avenue	22	154
89.	Behind J.F.K	80	960
90.	<i>Payne Avenue</i>	16	192
91.	<i>5<sup>th</sup> Street/Surroundings</i>	29	237
92.	<i>8<sup>th</sup> Street/Surroundings</i>	31	250
93.	<i>Fish Market/Across Airfield Community</i>	96	858
94.	<i>Audience</i>	-0-	48
95.	<i>Congo Town Back Road</i>	60	500
96.	<i>Twelve Houses Community</i>	28	350
97.	<b>ELWA:</b>		
98.	<i>ELWA Junction Surroundings</i>	125	1,000
99.	<i>ELWA Megaphone rally</i>	-0-	8,550
100.	<b>Paynesville City:</b>		
101.	<i>Red Light Megaphone rally</i>	-0-	13,540
102.	<i>Red Light Surroundings</i>	29	350
103.	<i>Gobachop Community</i>	109	2,570
104.	<i>Pipeline</i>	250	3,250
105.	<i>Sugar Hill</i>	30	1,450
106.	<i>Jacob Town Megaphone rally</i>	-0-	6,070
107.	<i>Jacob Town</i>	58	1,017
108.	<i>Nezon</i>	17	576
109.	<i>Amegachie</i>	60	681
110.	<i>Black Jenner</i>	43	2,208
111.	<b>RobertsField Highway:</b>		
112.	<i>Bible Way</i>	28	200
113.	<i>Gbengaye Town</i>	32	85
114.	<i>Borbor Town</i>	21	250
115.	<b>Somalia Drive:</b>		
116.	<i>Oxygen Factory</i>	102	989
117.	<i>LPRC Road</i>	100	500
118.	<i>Chicken Soup Factory</i>	159	1,995
119.	<i>Topoe Village</i>	145	1,680
120.	<i>Chocolate City</i>	143	1,318
121.	<i>Snow Hill</i>	138	993
122.	<i>Shoe Factory</i>	111	757
123.	<i>Stephen Tolbert Estate</i>	144	1,722
124.	<i>M.T.A Community</i>	100	665
125.	<i>River View Community</i>	141	707
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>147,374</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>CAREYSBURG DISTRICT:</b>		
1.	<i>Cloth Factory</i>	4	34
2.	<i>Dee Town</i>	6	24

3.	Tuan Town	23	93
4.	Belakpua Town	3	14
5.	Bissa Town	1	5
6.	Yanqueller Town	9	39
7.	Central Barnesville	29	118
8.	Nan Miller Town	4	18
9.	Sheward's Town	3	13
10.	Kpaya queller	7	28
11.	Moore Nail Town	17	70
12.	Gellerler's Town	18	72
13.	Kpala Town	8	34
14.	Kurto Town	3	12
15.	George Town	8	34
16.	Yeamah Town	16	64
17.	Gaybah Camp	3	14
18.	Men Town	13	55
19.	Tata Town	3	15
20.	Gbayan Town	10	40
21.	Youth Camp	20	81
22.	Gbolo Kpalasu	17	71
23.	Miller Town	20	82
24.	Coca-Cola factory	80	322
25.	Ma-Barclay	1491	5966
26.	Johnsonville	136	544
27.	Yah Town	2	9
28.	Ecomog Village	4	17
29.	Gbolo Town	19	79
30.	Gulor Town	5	21
31.	Gbolomune Town	19	76
32.	Tolbert Camp	35	142
33.	Central Croziavile	22	88
34.	Tolbert Yard	20	82
35.	Train Exchange	16	66
36.	Vertell Town	6	26
37.	Geeto Town	14	57
38.	Fanyoah Town	5	21
39.	<i>Croizerville Road</i>	54	500
40.	<i>Benthol Comment Town</i>	50	500
41.	<i>Benthol IDPs Camp</i>	114	2,100
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,119</b>	<b>11,646</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>ST.PAUL DISTRICT:</b>		
42.	Wilson Corner IDPs Camp	2825	11,300
43.	Jah Tondo IDPs Camp	1347	5391
44.	Blamasee IDPs Camp	2402	9,611
45.	Rick IDPs Camp	942	3,769
46.	St. Paul Bridge	187	750
47.	Banjor	61	244
48.	Hotel Africa Road	175	701

49.	Banjor Community	53	2,714
50.	Banjor Beach	279	1,118
51.	Island Clinic	237	948
52.	Po River	112	450
53.	Blama Gaye Town	370	1,481
54.	Red Hill	138	555
55.	Momboe Town	148	595
56.	Molton Corner	157	628
57.	Brewerville	195	780
58.	Perry IDPs Camp	500	4,100
59.	VOA IDPs Camp	308	3,300
60.	Sayegbeh	138	2,063
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>50,498</b>
61.	<b>TODEE DISTRICT:</b>		
62.	Doughahlon Town	20	81
63.	Nyhen Town	36	182
64.	Yahn Kai Town	22	89
126.	Duaquoi Town	16	64
127.	Meinagay Town	30	151
128.	Vorfee Town	3	14
129.	Finny Town	14	56
130.	Doino Holder	38	135
131.	Willie Town	14	58
132.	Goba Town	42	212
133.	Cole Town	1	4
134.	P2 Town	5	22
135.	Blackie Town	3	12
136.	Deshiel farm	2	7
137.	Gbo Paye Town	3	14
138.	Korlor Town	13	50
139.	Kollah Zineh Town	12	48
140.	Musu	13	52
141.	Kpenubu Town	12	50
142.	Oumen Town	11	45
143.	Collon Farm	15	62
144.	Bahe Town	33	133
145.	Div. # 20 Camp	2	10
146.	Varney Village	5	21
147.	Yah Gbelley	6	25
148.	Zinc Camp	5	23
149.	Coal Base	2	8
150.	Subah Town	9	39
151.	Charles Luke	16	64
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,731</b>



**TOTAL PER DISTRICTS**

**BONG COUNTY:**

Jorqulleh District.....	31,174
Suakoko District.....	20,572
Salala District.....	15,963
Zota District.....	2,710
Panta-kpaai District.....	7,902
Kokoya District.....	1,471
Sanoyea District.....	1,173
Fauma District.....	<u>8,422</u>
Grand Total.....	<b><u>89,387</u></b>

**MARGIBI COUNTY:**

Kakata District.....	8,055
Firestone District.....	29,610
Mamba Kaba District.....	22,029
Gibi District.....	<u>15,707</u>
Grand Total.....	<b><u>75,401</u></b>

**MONTSERRADO COUNTY:**

Todee District.....	1,731
St. Paul District.....	50,498
Careyburg District.....	11,646
Monrovia District (Central, North, South).....	147,374
Grand Total.....	<b><u>211,249</u></b>

***Grand Total for Montserrado, Margibi & Bong Counties is.....376,037***

## Political Parties' Finance Regulations Strengthened

[The NEWS](#) (Monrovia)

July 5, 2005

Posted to the web July 5, 2005

Monrovia

T. Michael Johnny

### *Civil Societies to serve as 'Watch Dog'*

On the eve of the release by the National Elections Commission (NEC) of the campaign finance regulation for the October elections, thirty-three representatives of fifteen civil society organizations met in Monrovia on July 1-2, to discuss how to monitor funding and spending by candidates and political parties.

International For Election System (IFES), convened the workshop in coordination with the Center for Transparency and Accountability in Liberia, (CENTAL), the Liberian Institute of Public Opinion, (LIPO) and the National Democratic Institute (NDI), a US-based NGO working in Liberia, while the U.S Agency for International Development (USAID) funded the workshop. USAID is also funding IFES activities in the area of campaign finance.

According to the organizers of the workshop, political parties and those contesting the October 11 elections will be required to report their sources of funding and their expenditure to the NEC.

In an effort to reform Liberia's electoral system, NEC has developed campaign finance regulations, which provided detailed guidelines to parties and candidates on reporting requirements. Interestingly, by releasing the parties' and candidates' reports to the public, NEC will facilitate a work of civil society and the media in monitoring finance and examining the role of money in politics in Liberia.

Civil society representatives at the workshop heard presentations on how to monitor income and expenditure by parties and candidates. Some of the presentations were delivered by Dr. Marcin Walecki of IFES and Jasper Cummen of CENTAL. Mr. Konrad Huber of USAID discussed how to monitor the abuse of state resources by parties and candidates, while Philip Tali and Sidi Diawara of NDI examined the relationship between Civil Societies Organizations and political parties in campaign monitoring.

A member of NEC, Cllr. Joseph Blidi presented the legal requirements with regards to campaign finance and urged civil societies to assist NEC with monitoring campaign finance.

In his presentation, Dr. Walecki, IFES, noted, 'civil society organizations have become increasingly active in addressing issues related to political finance and political corruption. Pressure from civil society is necessary in order to create an atmosphere, which promotes anti-corruptive initiatives, as civil society can serve as a reliable 'watch dog' of party and campaign finance in contemporary democracies'. He said.

At the conclusion of the seminar, Mr. Cummen, of CENTAL, announced, 'We are forming a coalition that will monitor political parties' campaign finance to ensure a level playing field for all

and are optimistic that with the requisite support and political will, this initiative is going to set the basis for responsive governance in Liberia'. He was quoted as saying.

The training was the second in IFES' series of three workshops for Liberian stakeholders on campaign finance.



Republic of Liberia  
**National Elections Commission (NEC)**



# Guidelines on the Establishment of Electoral Districts in Liberia

**16 May 2005**

## **PREAMBLE**

WHEREAS, Article 89 of the January 6, 1986 Constitution of the Republic of Liberia established the Elections Commission as an autonomous public Commission;

WHEREAS, Section 9, Chapter 2 of the 1986 Elections Law empowers the Elections Commission to formulate and enforce electoral guidelines;

WHEREAS, the National Elections Commission successor to the Elections Commission, was reconstituted by the Comprehensive Peace Agreement signed in Accra, Ghana, on 18th August 2003;

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Peace Agreement mandates that the electoral system in Liberia be reformed in order to ensure that the rights and interests of all Liberians are guaranteed, and that the elections are organized in a manner that is acceptable to all;

WHEREAS, Section 5 (y) of the Electoral Reform Law of 2004 establishes Electoral Districts as the amalgamation of voting precincts by the National Elections Commission for the purpose of electing members of the House of Representatives;

WHEREAS, the National Elections Commission shall define and publish the number of Electoral Districts for each county on or before 15 July 2005;

## **NOW THEREFORE:**

**The National Elections Commission hereby promulgates the following guidelines pertaining to the creation of Electoral Districts in Liberia for the sole purpose of the October 2005 elections:**

## **Part I: GENERAL**

These guidelines may be cited as the Guidelines on the Establishment of Electoral Districts in Liberia.

In these guidelines, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) "Electoral District" means one of 64 units comprised of the amalgamated Voter Registration Centers for the purposes of the House of Representatives within a given county;
- (b) "The Commission" means the National Elections Commission;
- (c) "Amalgamation" means the combination of Voter Registration Centers to form Electoral Districts;
- (d) "The Reform Law" means the Electoral Reform Law of 2004;
- (e) "Criteria" means those factors to be considered in the establishment of the amalgamation of Voter Registration Centers to form Electoral Districts;
- (f) "Population Quota" means the total number of registered voters across all counties divided by 64, the total number of House seats; and
- (g) "Contiguous" in the establishment of Electoral Districts means wholly contained within one area.

## **Part II: Context**

The Electoral Reform Law stipulates that Liberia adopt a first past the post electoral system that relies exclusively on single-member Electoral Districts to elect members by simple majority to the House of Representatives, therefore, it is necessary to allocate seats accordingly.

Furthermore, pursuant to Section 4 of the Electoral Reform Law, the sixty-four (64) seats shall be distributed among the 15 counties on the basis of the number of registered voters in each county, provided no county receives less than 2 seats.

Additionally, no Electoral District shall cross a county boundary, and Electoral Districts shall be contiguous as far as is practicable.

## **Part III: Seat Allocation**

After the number of registered voters in each county has been tabulated, the total number of registered voters for all the counties and the population quota can be established.



Two (2) seats are hereby automatically allocated to each of Liberia's fifteen (15) counties irrespective of the number of registered voters in the county. Thirty (30) of the total number of sixty-four (64) House seats shall be so allocated.

The remaining thirty-four (34) seats shall be allocated to the counties on the basis of the relative number of registered voters in each county. Only counties that have the requisite quota of registered voters, based on the balance of total number of registered voters, may be awarded any of these 34 seats each time a county achieves the quota.

#### **Part IV: Establishment of Electoral Districts**

The Commission shall establish 64 Electoral Districts to represent amalgamated units of Voter Registration Centers for the purpose of the House of Representatives elections.

The primary criterion for the establishment of the Electoral Districts is the total number of registered voters in a given county. An Electoral District will be established according to the registered voter population quota for a given county. The Voter Registration Centers will be amalgamated to form Electoral Districts based on the tabulated number of persons registered to vote at each center.

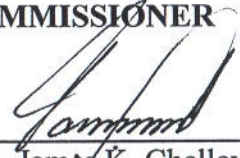
When amalgamating Voter Registration Centers to form Electoral Districts, the Commission shall endeavour, as much as is practicable, to have relatively equal number of registered voters represented within each Electoral District, notwithstanding the deviations that result from the 2 seat minimum per county.

Additional criteria guiding the establishment of Electoral Districts may include, as much as practicable, contiguity, geographic features, the existing administrative district and tribal/chiefdom boundaries and communities of interest.

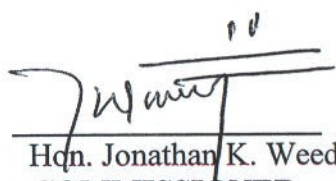
#### **Part V: Publication**

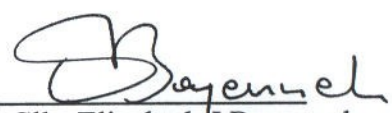
The Commission shall publish the final Electoral Districts on or before 15 July 2005.

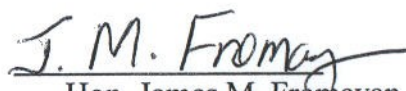
Hon. Mary N. Brownell  
**COMMISSIONER**

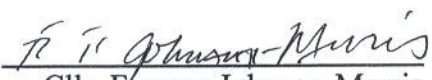
  
Hon. James K. Chelley, Sr  
**COMMISSIONER**

  
Cllr. Karmo Soko Sackor, Sr  
**COMMISSIONER**

  
Hon. Jonathan K. Weedor  
**COMMISSIONER**

  
Cllr. Elizabeth J. Boyenneh  
**COMMISSIONER**

  
Hon. James M. Fromayan  
**Co-CHAIRMAN**

  
Cllr. Frances Johnson-Morris  
**CHAIRMAN**